

# WARE RIVER NEWS

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## Board discusses EMS options

### Marijuana businesses talk agreements

By Paula Ouimette  
Staff Writer

HARDWICK – At their Monday meeting, the Hardwick Board of Selectmen discussed ambulance service options for the town, although no vote was taken.

Board member Julie Quink said that she and Town Administrator Theresa Cofske recently sat in a meeting with Ware Town Manager Stuart Beckley, Barre Town Administrator Jessica Sizer, Barre Fire Chief Robert Rogowski and West Brookfield Rescue Squad President Dan McCall.

Quink said Rogowski thinks it would be more appropriate for Barre to service the Wheelwright area and parts of Hardwick close to the town lines, rather than cover the whole town. Quink said Sizer thought Barre's Board of Selectmen would defer to Rogowski for his recommendation.

Quink said Ware EMS had did not have a final number, but she had received an email Monday sug-

Please see **BOS**, page 3

## Kruckas, McCarthy win SelectBoard seats

By Eileen Kennedy  
Staff writer

WARE – In a four-way race for two Ware SelectBoard seats Monday, Keith Kruckas and Caitlin McCarthy received the most votes, according to Town Clerk Nancy Talbot. Kruckas received 360 votes and McCarthy received 313, making them the top vote-getters.

Alan Whitney received 309 votes and Josh Kusnierz received 291 votes. Kruckas and Whitney were running for re-election, McCarthy is a newcomer to politics and Kusnierz has served on the Planning Board and is the town's tree warden.

"I hemmed and hawed at first about running, but then I decided there were things I wanted to see through. I guess people like what I've been doing," Kruckas said. "I'm definitely most interested in what happens with the hospital and the building on Main Street, which is a huge problem for us. Of course, there is also the water filtration plant." There will be a Special Town Meeting on April 24, at 9 a.m., on the Ware Junior Senior High School football field, to address whether voters want to approve



Turley Publications staff photo by Melina Bourdeau  
Supporters of Keith Kruckas for selectman stood on Main Street Monday during the Annual Town Meeting. Kruckas received the most votes.

Please see **WARE**, page 6

## Ruggles wins seat on select board, sewer commission

By Paula Ouimette  
Staff writer

HARDWICK – The town of Hardwick held their annual election on Monday, April 12 at Hardwick Elementary School. The only contested races on the ballot were for the three-year term for Board of Selectmen and three-year term for Gilbertville-Wheelwright Sewer Commissioner, both held by incumbent Kenan Young.

Newcomer H. Robert Ruggles received the majority of the votes for selectman with 310, while Young received 203. Ruggles also received the majority of the votes for sewer commissioner with 292, with Young receiving 212. Ruggles was sworn in as selectman and sewer commissioner after the election. When reached for comment about the election, Ruggles said, "I would like to start by thanking Kenan Young for his years of service to Hardwick. Also, I want to thank everyone for coming out to vote on election day. I am looking forward to these new challenges, and the opportunity to serve the people of Hardwick. The Board will be meeting soon and we can begin to move forward on the most pressing issues facing the town."

Hardwick saw a 27 percent voter turnout with 514 out of 1,902 registered voters casting ballots. Town Clerk Ryan J. Witkos said poll workers saw a steady stream of voters throughout the day. Voters were able to socially distance by following a one-way flow pattern, and poll workers used ultraviolet wands to sanitize booths between uses.

The remaining positions on the ballot were uncontested and the results are as follows: Kathryn W. Hosley was re-elected to a three-year term on the Board of Assessors with 444 votes. Judith Berg Kohn was elected to the Board of Health for a three-year term with 401 votes. Stanley H. Remiszewski was also elected to the Board of Health for a two-year term with 423 votes. Erik L.

Please see **HARDWICK**, page 3

## Ware High School receives Innovation Pathway in Manufacturing designation

### Program to provide another career pathway to students

By Eileen Kennedy  
Staff writer

WARE – Ware Public Schools continues to keep creating opportunities for all students, whether it is AP classes or finding different career paths for them. Over the past few years, the district has created a fire science program, a police program and a certified nursing assistant program. Now,

they will be creating an Innovation Pathway in Manufacturing that will serve 130 students when it is up and running at Ware Junior Senior High School.

Ware is one of 18 school districts recently awarded a designation as an Innovation Pathway school, which offers a coherent course of study in a particular field, access to college-level courses and internship opportunities. It is also one of only four high school receiving a designation in Central and Western Mass. Some of the 18 schools are pursuing pathways in manufacturing as well as health care and social

assistance, business and finance, information, and environmental and life sciences.

Each school that receives an innovation pathway grant must provide equitable access for all students, guided academic pathway for its industry sector, enhanced student supports, relevant connections to careers and deep partnerships between the school, employers and workforce development boards.

The school is partnering with MassHire Franklin-Hampshire and Vibram Corp., along with other

Please see **WHS**, page 6

## Spring cleanup takes to the streets on Saturday

By Paula Ouimette  
Staff writer

WARE – This coming Saturday marks the kickoff of the weeklong Keep Ware Beautiful Town Wide Spring Cleanup. All are invited to clean up litter at a location anywhere in town beginning April 17, at 10 a.m., through April 24, at 5 p.m. Participants that register by Thursday, April 15, will receive a supply kit, courtesy of Keep Ware Beautiful, on a first come, first serve basis. Keep Ware Beautiful encourages those participating to take "before and after" photos and share them to the organization's

Facebook page. The photo that receives the most "likes" will win a prize.

As spring weather has officially arrived and all snow has thawed on the side of the roadways, it is clear there is much work to be done. Powerful March winds have blown trash and recycling containers over, causing many properly disposed of items to become litter. In addition to litter, another problem Ware is facing is illegal dumping. "Back roads are usually places where people feel comfortable littering or dumping large

Please see **CLEANUP**, page 3



Natalie, age 14, enjoyed needle felting the most.

## Hardwick youth experience the arts at Workshop13

By Paula Ouimette  
Staff writer

HARDWICK/WARE – Fourteen youth that attend Hardwick Youth Center, a free program for children residing in Hardwick and its villages, held a small art exhibition for their families last Thursday at Workshop13 in Ware. These youth have been taking a weekly art class at both Workshop13 and ClayWorks since December, only missing a few weeks due to holidays and weather.

Hardwick Youth Center was formed 35 years ago, as a joint effort by parents and involved community members. In the first 25 years of its existence, the center provided a safe, fun place for teenagers to spend time and social-

ize. Now, the HYC provides programming to children through age 19, with an afterschool program for grades K to 12, and a MOC Coordinated Family and Community Engagement playgroup for children up to age 5, all located on the top floor of the Myron E. Richardson Municipal Building. Youth Commissioner Elizabeth Reilly said HYC serves more than 100 member children and families.

The COVID-19 pandemic has changed the way HYC's programs are available to youth, with the MOC CFCE playgroup meeting on Zoom every Friday morning from 10 to 10:30 a.m., and the afterschool program exploring the

Please see **WORKSHOP**, page 8



Turley Publications staff photo by Paula Ouimette  
Morgan, age 13, is shown with her creations. Her favorite technique she learned was working with clay.

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### SPORTS

Ware beats Ludlow

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Sign up for summer camp

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Quabbin middle/high students back full-time

By Ellenor Downer  
Staff Writer

BARRE – At the Quabbin Regional School Committee last Thursday, Superintendent Sheila Muir said all sixth-graders and middle and high school students returned to school full-time and “they were happy to be back in school.”  
She said it was a successful transition thanks to all the staff. About 13% continued with remote learning. The sixth grade and middle and high school students spent the school year in a hybrid model of two days in class and three at home remotely until the state education commissioner ordered all students back in the classroom with a full-remote option available.  
Muir said six-foot spacing remained in most instances at the elementary level. At the middle/high school, the social distancing between students was closer to four to four and a half feet.

Administrative services  
Cheryl Duval, director of administrative services, said the district had \$2.8 million in school choice and \$1 million in circuit breaker money, which would be used toward funding next year’s budget. She said the district received grant funding. A Remote Learning Tech grant of \$73,501 and Corona Virus Prevention grant of \$94,762.50 were expended in full, as was a Corona Virus Relief Fund School Reopening of \$431,775.  
The district also received a Rural School Aid grant in fiscal 2020 of \$242,602.70 and \$212,419.67 in fiscal 2021. Duval said the district also received ESSER grants. The district expended in full an ESSER I grant of \$171,150. The deadline to spend the ESSER II grant of \$719,718, was June 30, 2023, She said the ESSER III grant amount was not known at the present, but should be about \$1.6 to \$2 million. The deadline for spending the grant was June 30, 2024. The school nutrition director applied for grants to cover kitchen equipment,

Budget subcommittee  
Budget Subcommittee Chair Mark Wigler, said the house budget should be finalized in mid-April and he hoped to have an additional School Committee meeting the end of April so the committee can present assessments to the member towns. The school committee chair scheduled a School Committee meeting for Tuesday, April 27, at 6 p.m.

Other business  
The School Committee approved accepting school choice students in grades, which would not require additional teachers. About 12% of enrollment was school choice students.  
Nekr Jenkins, of Qdrug, said last year QDrug partnered with the school district to apply for a drug-free community grant. It did not receive the grant, but Jenkins said she received feedback on how to file an application for this year by updating public health terminology. The School Committee approved a motion to apply for the five-year grant again this year.

but the awarding was not yet announced.  
MCAS update  
Muir said it looked likely Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System testing will happen. She said pending the board of education decision, 11th-graders won’t have to take the performance test. School Committee Chair “Lee” Wolanin said if districts going to have to do MCAS testing, they should be held harmless with no district accountability or student impact.

Student advisory  
Two fifth-graders at Hubbardston Center School, Moira Powers and Kaylee, gave a report via Zoom to the School Committee. They said they do not get recess and the year has been different.  
Cleni Marenelli and Sunden Strazdas are members of the Student Council. They said they enjoy full in-person learning. The Student Council has been checking on how students are doing.

Are You Old News?

Each week the Ware River News digs into its submitted photo archives and selects a people photo to publish. We need your help to help identify those pictured.  
Email your answers by Monday at noon to [ekennedy@turley.com](mailto:ekennedy@turley.com).

Brian St. Onge identified his children as two of the people in last week’s Are You Old News? photo. He said they were Brett S. Onge and Jocelyn St. Onge, sitting with Kuku the Clown, also known as Bill Blodgett. It was taken during a St. Mary’s Family Night when the building was a friendly’s restaurant, which is now Dioguardi Jewelers on Main Street in Ware.

If you recognize the folks in this week’s photo, please send their names and your full name to [ekennedy@turley.com](mailto:ekennedy@turley.com).

Scout baked potato take-out fundraiser

Proceeds to benefit Philmont High Adventure Base trip

WARE – Boy Scout Troop 281 Philmont Crew 2022 will hold a baked potato take-out fundraiser on May 8, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., at All Saints Church Hall on North Street.  
The cost is \$8 per person for advanced sales and \$10 per person at the door. The take-out dinner includes a huge potato, with all the fixings, a drink and dessert. The fixings include butter, sour cream, green onion, bacon, cheese, chili and broccoli. There will also be a raffle table and a 50/50 raffle, and winners will be contacted.  
Text or call Dan at 413-297-5886 or Paul at 413-214-1776, or email [scoutdad281@charter.net](mailto:scoutdad281@charter.net). All proceeds will go toward the crew’s trip to Philmont High Adventure Base in New Mexico.

Ware Family Center holds story time in-person outdoors

WARE – Ware Family Center, a Collaborative for Educational Services playgroup, is meeting at Grenville Park, 73 Church St., weekly on Mondays and Tuesdays from 11:15 a.m. to noon for story time, movements and nature walks. Children ages birth to 5-years-old accompanied by an adult are welcome.  
Following town Board of Health and CDC and EEC guidelines, families must bring a blanket to sit social distanced from other families and masks are required for all who are age 2 and older. Ware Family Center’s Facebook page has stories read, family activities posted and community resources highlighted as well as updates on programming.

Siblings Silas and Emery, who attend Ware Family Center with their grandmother, Nancy, are shown with coordinator Laurie Desjardins, who was showing them bugs climbing on the tree.

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# WARE SCHOOL NOTEBOOK

The School Committee met on March 31.

School Superintendent Dr. Marlene DiLeo said all students in all grades would be back in school five days a week as of April 25. Many of the students are already back in school and she said it was great to see the schools filling up with students again. She also said all bus transportation is back to normal with pre-COVID-19 seating in place.

DiLeo said that the state has chosen to pick up the cost of pooled testing for COVID-19 positivity in school through the end of the year. At first the state had said it would only pay for it through March 28, but it has been expanded. Ware had tested 116 people in the school system as of the meeting, and had not had any positive results.

The School Committee approved the spring season at the request of Athletic Director Thomas Shamgocian, who said the season will start on April 26. He said there would be junior varsity and varsity baseball, softball and volleyball, and possibly a cooperative wrestling program if that sport is approved. He also told the committee the winter season was successful and coaches

followed all COVID-19 sports regulations for each sport. Fall 2 season had started up, he said, and the spring season.

School Committee members said they would like to work with a local dance school that wants to hold a dance recital at the Ware Junior Senior High School auditorium. It will have to provide a written plan on what COVID-19 prevention measures. The school has offered to pay for whatever cleaning processes are necessary.

School Committee Chairman Christopher Desjardins said he would reach out to the school and discuss the use with them and the need for a plan. DiLeo said the schools are not in a position to assign an employee to make sure everyone with complies with COVID-19 regulations at the event. Shamgocian volunteered to be the compliance officer.

DiLeo said there will be summer school including the Century 21 program, which has been offered after school as well as general education.

The School Committee went into Executive Session to discuss strategy for collective bargaining with teachers, paraprofessionals and custodians. They did not return to regular session.

# North Road marijuana cultivation business proposed

By Paula Ouimette  
Staff Writer

**HARDWICK** – Residents were invited to attend a Community Outreach Meeting for the proposed marijuana establishment, Budding Botanicals LLC, 664 North Road. Owners of the property, Carolyn and Meira Blum, shared their business plans with abutters and residents that joined the Zoom meeting on Monday, April 12, at 5:30 p.m.

Carolyn Blum said that their proposed business would be cannabis cultivation for wholesale distribution. There would not be any direct sales from the property. Budding Botanicals LLC would be seeking a Tier 2 license from the Cannabis Control Commission.

**Security measures**

Carolyn Blum said the proposed site's security must meet the strict guidelines of the CCC. They will have a six-foot chain fence covered with a privacy fabric. "You will not be seeing anything," Blum said. The location of the greenhouses is set back from the roadway. There will be approximately 20 cameras with motions sensors, an alarm system and an on-site security liaison, as required by the CCC. Blum

said they will also have a gate to access the property and a code that only staff know.

**Preventing diversion to minors**

Blum said, "We will be a wholesale cultivation establishment. We are not selling directly to anyone. We are growing the plants only, in the secure environment." The cultivated product will be shipped to retailers directly. Abutter Stacey Hill asked if the plants would be cultivated indoors or outdoors. Blum said they will have two, 20-foot by 100-foot hoop house-style greenhouses. Each greenhouse will have a 10 mm plastic polycarbonate covering and be locked with a security code.

**Odor concerns**

Blum said each greenhouse will be equipped with large carbon filters, more than is required by the CCC. She has visited other marijuana cultivators with similar set-ups and odor has not been an issue, she said. Meira Blum said they chose to have three to four 14-inch carbon filters rated at 1,200 cubic feet per minute, in each greenhouse "specifically to ensure odor mitigation for our neighbors."

Planning Board Chair Harry

Comerford asked Carolyn Blum to refer his board to an existing facility similar to what she is proposing so they can visit it.

**Tree cutting**

Abutter Lucinda Childs asked if they will be clear-cutting the lot to get sun to the greenhouses. Blum said they are cutting the trees and doing a lot of manual work. Childs asked if Blum has read the zoning bylaws of Hardwick. Blum said they had read them, and they have confirmed that there are no wetlands in that specific spot.

**Traffic and light concerns**

Residents of North Road voiced concerns about increased traffic on the road caused by supply and distribution trucks. Meira Blum said "wholesale product will be delivered directly to retailers and manufacturers, they will not be arriving to our site."

Hill said she was also concerned about the appearance of the fence, as "it will change the nature of the neighborhood." Carolyn Blum said she appreciates the aesthetics of the town and the backwoods. "You're not going to be able to see it. It will be obscured by trees," she said. Another res-

ident asked about lighting and if lights would be on all the time. Meira Blum said they want to be conservative with energy usage and will be using string lights to keep the plants in a vegetative state. Lighting inside the greenhouses will only be on during daytime hours, using about 1,000 watts for the entire operation. An outdoor motion-sensor light will be used for security reasons. One resident suggested using infrared lights instead and Blum agreed to explore that possibility.

**Hours of operation**

Budding Botanicals LLC will be a seasonal facility and they will close for the winter.

**Positive impacts**

As a cultivator, Blum said they will pay a 3% Community Impact Fee to the town. Hiring to complete the construction of the project will be done locally, such as electrician, engineer, setup and other positions. The Blums said they would like to participate and help at local activities, and look forward to attending the Hardwick Community Fair.



File photo

**The Keep Ware Beautiful Town Wide Spring Cleanup will begin April 17, at 10 a.m., and go through April 24, at 5 p.m., as seen in this photo from the 2018 cleanup. For more information and to register for the Town Wide Spring Cleanup, people may visit Keep Ware Beautiful on Facebook.**

**CLEANUP** from page 1

items such as mattresses and TVs. In town, the streets get some litter like fast food wrappers and cigarette butts," Keep Ware Beautiful member Kelly Trim said.

Keep Ware Beautiful was formed in 2018, as an effort to take control of the town's ever-increasing litter issue and is a chapter of Keep Massachusetts Beautiful. Neil Rhein helped Trim get the Ware chapter up and running, including making the logo and getting some supplies. The Town Wide Cleanup, sponsored by Keep Ware Beautiful, typically occurs twice a year. The first being around Earth Day, and the second in the fall. Major cleanup efforts had to be put on hold last year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, meaning there is a much greater need for helping hands this year.

Trim has always been passionate about keeping Ware clean and litter-free. She and other concerned citizens, organized many cleanups prior to forming Keep Ware Beautiful, passing out trash bags, gloves and safety apparel from the front of the United Church of Ware.

"I hate seeing litter all over our beautiful town, especially in

the natural areas," Trim said. The most common litter items collected along the roadways are "cigarette butts and nips, followed by fast food wrappers and bottles," she said.

While litter can cause damage to our natural world through pollution, sometimes clean-up members find items that carry additional health and safety risks, such as needles and drug paraphernalia. Trim credits the Ware Police Department with keeping everyone safe by disposing of these items, as well as directing traffic in busy areas so volunteers can clean up close to the road.

An effort like this requires many volunteers. Town Manager Stuart Beckley coordinates with the Department of Public Works to collect trash bags and dispose of them. On average, each cleanup is made possible by about 20 volunteers.

"Our biggest supporters have been the Scouts," Trim said. For more information and to register for the Town Wide Spring Cleanup, people may visit Keep Ware Beautiful on Facebook. The organization is also open to sponsorship by local businesses and donations of T-shirts, rubber gloves and grabbers.

**BOS** from page 1

gesting Ware was interested in covering part of Hardwick, with Barre covering the other. Quink said Ware's assessment for partial coverage of Hardwick would stay at \$77,000, the current rate for the whole town. Quink said Barre's proposed assessment for partial coverage is \$22,500. Quink said she felt it is a "part or nothing" deal with Ware. The combined services from Barre and Ware would equal an annual assessment of \$99,500.

Quink said Hardwick's other option was having Barre provide partial coverage as proposed, along with West Brookfield Rescue Squad. Quink said WBRS is hoping to be at medic level in the fall. WBRS proposed an assessment of \$18,400 for non-transport services, which are calls they respond to that do not require transport or transport was refused. Quink said they could still rely on Ware for mutual aid. She felt Barre would work well with both Ware and WBRS.

Selectmen Chairman Kenan Young said they should tie Barre into the plan either way. He said Wheelwright "is still a hike" for WBRS to respond. Quink shared a breakdown of calls received by dispatch from 2019, that showed over 90 of those 200-plus calls came from Wheelwright. The board will be contacting town counsel to verify they are within their 90-day notice period for their contract with Ware for EMS coverage.

Quink said she is meeting tomorrow with Sizer, Beckley, Rogowski, McCall, Ware Fire Chief Christopher Gagnon and Hardwick Fire Chief Raymond Walker. Both Young and board member Kelly Kemp thanked Quink for her efforts in addressing this issue.

**Hardwick Mill Greenery**

Young introduced Attorney Brian Palmucci, representing Hardwick Mill Greenery, located at 94 Main St., Gilbertville. Palmucci said they are in the design phase now with Dan LaFrance overseeing engineering.

Reggie Lang, the principal owner of the property, is a former restaurateur that has gotten into the development of real estate. Palmucci said Lang was unable to sign into the meeting, but he was looking to have a retail store on site, 50 to 60,000 square feet of cultivation, and to house other businesses and services in the large mill building.

Palmucci said they want to "make it an economic engine for the town that it once was." Palmucci has sent a Community Host Agreement to the town to review, and will be hosting a Community Outreach Meeting via Zoom on April 29, at 5:30 p.m. Meeting information and Zoom link are located on the meeting calendar at [www.townofhardwick.com](http://www.townofhardwick.com).

**Budding Botanicals, LLC**

Carolyn Blum, a representative from Budding Botanicals, LLC, to be located at 664 North Road, Hardwick, also experienced connection issues in joining the meeting. When she was able to sign in, Blum said they had just hosted their community outreach meeting with abutters and other residents prior to the selectmen's meeting.

Blum said she spoke with Town Administrator Theresa Cofske and had sent over a Community Host Agreement for review. The board had not received the CHA from town counsel yet and Young said it usually takes town counsel a bit of time to review the document. Young told Blum to reach out to Cofske to ask if town counsel had finished their review.

**STM/ATM date**

The board approved the Special Town Meeting date as Saturday, June 19, at 9 a.m., immediately followed by the Annual Town Meeting. The STM/ATM will be held in-person at the Hardwick Elementary School, outdoors if necessary, to meet COVID-19 guidelines. This date is pending approval by Town Clerk Ryan J. Witkos.

**Appointments/resignations**

The board received the resignation of part-time MART driver, Douglas Robidoux. Sharon Hardaker, MART dispatcher, recommended the hiring of Robert Gamache to fill the vacant position and Stanley Johnson, as a backup driver. The pay rate would be \$14.05 an hour. The board approved Hardaker's recommendation to hire both Gamache and Johnson.

The board also approved the request to appoint Emily Bancroft for a three-year term to the Historical Commission when her current term ends.

**Ownership/management change**

The board held a public hearing regarding an application they received to change ownership and manager on the Famer's Series Pouring License for the Lost Towns Brewing Company. Young said the new manager will be Bruce McDowell, of Leominster, who is also a 33% owner of the business, along with James and Pamela Spurrell. McDowell said he was excited to start brewing beer and "looks forward to seeing everyone in town join them." The board approved the change in ownership and management.

**Ware Youth Baseball sign-ups, this Saturday**

WARE – Ware Youth Baseball sign-ups will take place Saturday, April 17, from 10 a.m. to noon, at the first baseball diamond in Grenville Park, which is on Church Street. Please contact Shawn Clark at 413-531-4434, with any questions or call for the digital version of the form.

**HARDWICK** from page 1

Fleming was re-elected to the Planning Board for a three-year term with 384 votes, as was Eric Volheim with 409 votes. Edward Kelly received six votes for Quabbin Regional School Committee Member (three-year term) as a write-in candidate (pending acceptance of position). Kelly has been a member of the School Committee for over 30 years and did not seek re-election. Stanley White received 39 votes for Paige Agricultural Fund Trustee (five-year term) as a write-in candidate (pending acceptance of position).

Both Christopher M. Buelow and Jennifer E. Garvey were re-elected to three-year terms as Paige Memorial Library Trustees with 401 votes each. Stanley White received five votes for this position as a write-in candidate.

The *Ware River News* will gladly correct factual errors that appear in this paper. Corrections or clarifications will always appear on Page 3. To request a correction, send information to [ekennedy@turley.com](mailto:ekennedy@turley.com), or call 967-3505. Corrections may also be requested in writing at: Ware River News, Attn: Editor, 80 Main St., Ware, MA 01082.

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SOCIAL SECURITY MATTERS

Can I still suspend my Social Security benefits?

By Russell Gloor  
Guest columnist

**Dear Rusty:** Is it still possible to suspend Social Security benefits for a time? And, if so, how often? *Signed: Curious Senior*

**Dear Curious Senior:** If you have already reached your full retirement age and are receiving Social Security benefits that you claimed earlier, you can voluntarily suspend your benefits to earn Delayed Retirement Credits (DRCs) and get a higher benefit amount when your payments are resumed. While your benefit payments are suspended, you will earn an additional .67% for each full month of suspension (8% per full year of suspension). If you wish to do so, you can suspend until you are 70 years old, after which you will no longer receive Delayed Retirement Credits, and your benefit will have reached maximum.

At age 70, Social Security will automatically restart your benefit at the higher amount, as appropriate for the number of DRCs you earned while suspended. If you prefer or need the money sooner, you can request that your benefit be restarted earlier than age 70.

You can voluntarily suspend and restart benefits more than once if that is necessary, but the process requires some lead time to stop/restart benefits and there are other important factors to consider. If you suspend your personal Social Security retirement benefit now to gain a higher payment amount later, while you are suspended no other benefits based on your record (such as a spousal or other dependent benefits) will be paid.

And, if you currently have your Medicare premium deducted from your Social Security benefit, suspending your Social Security benefits will require you to make alternate arrangements for direct payment of your Medicare premium(s). You would need to pay your Medicare premium via mail or by direct withdrawal from your bank account, or by charging a credit/debit card. If you decide to suspend your Social Security payments, you will need to contact Social Security directly at 1-800-772-1213, or call your local Social Security office to do so. When requesting your benefit suspension, you can also make arrangements through Social Security to pay your Medicare premium separately.

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*Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.*

A Sunday sojourn, garden style

I enjoyed getting out into the garden last weekend, making my way around various parts of the yard that required attention.

First stop, the perennial borders. As much as I love raking leaves, I raked the same gardens last month. It is always discouraging when you have to repeat something that you already did. Blame it on the massive oak tree in front of my house that just recently shed its leaves!

Why does it hold on to some of its leaves throughout the winter, anyway? I read some interesting hypotheses recently, explaining that the oak and its cousin the beech, are either evolutionarily delayed, or quite ahead of their time, depending on how you look at it. You see, we have the evergreens and we have deciduous trees. Then we have these trees in the middle. But what benefit could marcescence (holding on to dead leaves) be to the tree? One theory suggests that dead leaves covering the lower part of the tree protect vulnerable buds from deer browsing. Another says that the old leaves offer the buds measurable cold protection. I found yet two more explanations targeting moisture conservation, implying that the leaves funnel snow (I.e. water) to the base of the tree and that when the dead leaves fall they are the start of a moisture retentive mulch positioned exactly where the tree needs it the most, around the drip line. Very cool, indeed.

Yet another thing to awe about creation, as if there weren't enough already!

While I was outside I took advantage of impending rain, and decided that there was no time like the present to lime and top dress my garlic with compost. This meant visiting the compost pile, and you guessed it, raking off a layer of oak leaves before giving it a few good turns, revealing the "black gold" beneath, teaming with worms. It's really neat to think that all those banana peels, egg shells, orange rinds and the like

mixed with said leaves and grass clipping made this food for my garden. I filled a couple of buckets worth and headed over to the row of garlic. I was actually shocked to see that it had sprouted a good five inches in the 10 days or so I had been out of the garden. Better to get this task accomplished almost late than never, I guess. I pulled back the mulch, laid a layer of compost, then reset the mulch and sprinkled the whole bed with a bit of lime. I really should get my soil tested, but I remember reading something years ago that always said never to think about growing alliums in anything but sweet soil, so there you go. This is the second year that I planted my garlic, laid a layer of cardboard on top and then mulched the whole shebang. It is off to another great start, so it seems. The cardboard helps prevent weeds and conserve moisture.

I also gave some lime to my lupines. It's what I was taught to do a million years ago and still do it, even though some sources say it is not needed. There is one bed, closer to my house that has been growing lupines far longer than the 10 years we've been here. In year two they flower, drop their seed and new plants germinate, sometimes with very little fan fare and usually in a spot where you least expect it or would desire it for perfect placement. Whether it is too close to another plant, too close to the front of the border or somewhere else not part of the plan, no worries. The volunteer always gets to stay because if you move it, chances are you will sever the tap root and lose the plant. And a June without lupines is too sad to risk it. The only time I have ever attempted moving a lupine seedling is when it has only its first or second true leaf, and then very, very carefully.

Have fun with wherever you are led on your next afternoon in the garden!

*Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 28 years, she has held the position of staff horticulturalist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to [ekennedy@turley.com](mailto:ekennedy@turley.com) with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.*

ON THE GARDEN



Roberta McQuaid

FIELD NOTES

Firearms safety

By Mohawk Johnny

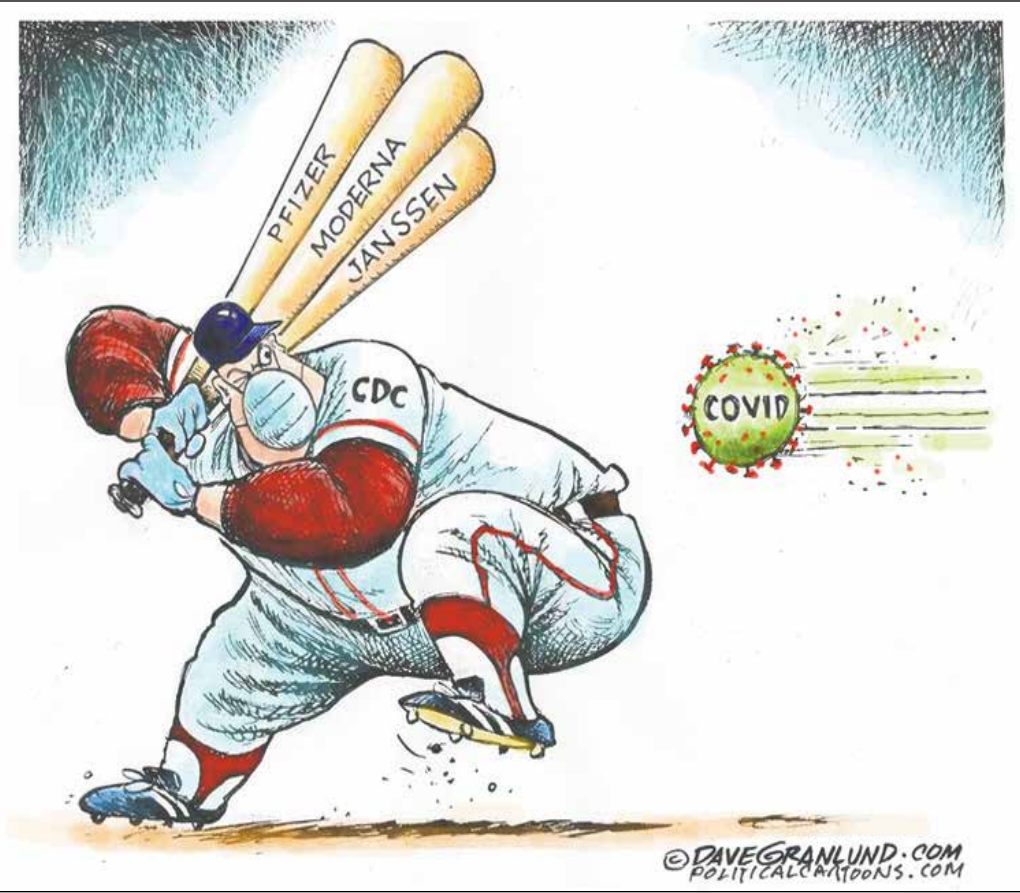
Some seasoned sportsmen and women may regard this as a tired and redundant topic—they read it over and over and over again in sporting magazines, hear it being drilled into their children at hunters' safety courses, and maybe they've had or know someone who's had a close call with an accidental discharge of a firearm or worse. They should know as well as anyone that it bears repeating, over and over and over.

I must now own up to the fact that I have been responsible for not one, but two accidental discharges in my lifetime. No, let's call them what they really are, negligent discharges. The first of these incidents happened when I was very new to firearms and could easily have injured or killed someone else; the other put a bullet through the ceiling and roof of my porch and could have easily killed me.

In my feeble defense, I didn't grow up in a hunting household and had no mentor to slap the back of my head whenever I did something stupid as I learned how to handle firearms. Taking a hunter safety course wasn't required in Massachusetts when I started hunting, so my only frame of reference came in the form of safety articles in my NRA-affiliated magazines and the little flyers that come with new firearms, listing the "Ten Commandments of Gun Safety."

I was, however, a full-grown adult, and I count myself a relatively intelligent fellow. Pro tip: Never confuse intelligence with wisdom. Nope, there is no defense, only the shame of doing something stupid and gratitude that no one was hurt or killed.

The last one, which happened decades ago, cemented in my mind the fact that once a trigger is pulled, that bullet is going where the muzzle is pointed—it can't be called back, and



if someone else is injured or has their life cut short due to my negligence, I'll have to live with that for the rest of my life. Each of those incidents, in retrospect, have affected a hyper-vigilant awareness whenever I handle firearms. I'm wiser now but not perfect, so I refresh my memory from time to time by rereading those commandments and mentally rehashing my own mistakes. Another pro tip: Don't be afraid to let humility overshadow your ego; it could save someone's life, maybe your own.

The Ten Commandments of Firearms Safety:

- Always keep the muzzle pointed in a safe

- direction.
- Firearms should be unloaded when not actually in use.
- Don't rely on your gun's safety.
- Be sure of your target and what's beyond it.
- Use proper ammunition.
- If your gun fails to fire when the trigger is pulled, handle with care.
- Always wear eye and ear protection when shooting.
- Be sure the barrel is clear of obstructions before shooting.
- Don't alter or modify your gun and have it serviced regularly.
- Learn the mechanical and handling characteristics of the firearm you are using.

IN MY BACKYARD

By Ellenor Downer

I saw an Eastern phoebe in my yard March 24 and heard one singing its name the day before. Every year they nest on the back deck and near my front door.

The Eastern phoebe is a seven inch gray brown bird with a white belly and black beak. It is the only flycatcher, which winters in southeastern United States. Phoebes fly out from a perch to catch insects on the fly; they also pick insects off the ground. While perched, phoebes flick their tail. The phoebe's song is well-enunciated "phoe-be" or "fi-bree," with the second note alternately higher or lower.

The female phoebe builds a cup nest of mud and moss lined with fine grasses placed on a ledge of a building or bridge. She lays four or five white eggs and incubates them. Both parents feed the young. The male defends territories through chase and song.

Once the young leave the nest, the female may renovate the nest and lay a second brood.



Courtesy photo

An Eastern phoebe.

The male may resume singing at this time.

Wilbraham Times reader

I received an email from a Wilbraham Times reader. She said, "I'm a bird lover, squirrel lover, all animal lover. I have a feeder on my back deck. The birds share it with the squirrels. They seem to not mind sharing and take their turns."

She recently saw a Carolina wren in the feeder and another looking around her awning that is currently rolled up. She hopes they aren't planning to nest in it. She sees the dark-eyed juncos daily, lots of blue jays, a male and female cardinal, which nest each year in the yard. It's really nice seeing their babies. Other birds include titmice, chickadees, yellow finch, house finch, downy woodpeckers, hairy woodpeckers, a pair of pileated woodpeckers, etc. She gets catbirds in the summer, which also nest on the property. A barred owl she named Hooty Fluffers is also around.

Returning birds

I now have six or more red-winged blackbirds along with a grackle or two. The phoebes

are back. This Monday while driving in the White Valley section of Barre along Route 122, I saw at least two dozen turkey vultures circling near the Ware River. It was late afternoon and they were probably getting ready to roost for the night.

Juncos

I still see juncos in my yard, but there are not as many as during the winter. Soon, they will be heading north to Canada for the breeding season. I only put seeds in my feeder tray in the morning as the bird seed-loving black bears are out of hibernation. Last week, a black bear destroyed my thistle feeder and grabbed a suet cake out of the suet feeder, which I recently bought. At least the bear did not break it or worse, take it away.

People may report a bird sighting or bird related experience by calling me at 413-967-3505, leaving a message at extension 100, emailing [mybackyard88@aol.com](mailto:mybackyard88@aol.com) or [edowner@turley.com](mailto:edowner@turley.com) or mailing to Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005.

WARE RIVER NEWS



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The deadline for submissions is Monday at noon.

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# Help save the Quaboag River Saturday

By Michael Harrison  
mharrison@turley.com

PALMER — The 50th anniversary of Earth Day may have been overshadowed by the global pandemic, but that doesn't mean its legacy doesn't continue.

In this area, the Palmer Conservation Commission is looking forward to a robust turnout of volunteers for its first river cleanup since 2019. The 2020 event was canceled as the COVID-19 pandemic, then in its early months, led to municipal lockdowns and quarantines as officials hoped to stop the spread.

This year's event will be held Saturday, April 17 — less than a week before the 51st Earth Day, which falls on April 22.

"The Palmer Conservation Commission has been hosting river clean ups on an annual or semi-annual basis since 2015," Sarah Fortune, conservation assistant for the Palmer Conservation Commission, said.

"This is the second Earth Day river clean-up since the first one, which occurred in 2018 and had approximately 50 volunteers. Our largest river clean up was the 2019 Source to Sea event which had approximately 114 volunteers."

This river sweep will be held in partnership with American Rivers, the Chicopee 4 Rivers Watershed Council, Keep Palmer Clean, and



Courtesy photos

**A group of volunteers who participated in the Palmer Conservation Commission's 2018 river clean-up. Anyone who wants to join their neighbors as part of a national river cleanup project on April 17 should contact Sarah Fortune at 413-626-7084 or sfortune@townof-palmer.com.**

Country Bank. Fortune said being good stewards of the rivers is not just important for the present.

"The Palmer Conservation Commission is committed to keeping our four major rivers — Quaboag, Ware, Swift and Chicopee — clean so we can protect and restore them for us and future generations," she said. "Participating in a river cleanup is one way that citizens can do their part for the rivers we all love." Fortune said.

"Rivers connect us to each

other, to nature, and to future generations," said Bob Irvin, president of American Rivers.

"It is wonderful to see so many people in Palmer and across the country taking action to protect and restore their rivers and clean water. We applaud the work of the Palmer Conservation Commission and the Chicopee 4 Rivers Watershed Council for the work they do on behalf of the river and the community."

The event begins at Laviolette Field in Three Rivers at 8:30 a.m.



**Local rivers are polluted and need stewardship to promote and maintain clean water and healthy aquatic ecosystems, a local official said.**

rain to shine.

"We will be focusing on cleaning up the field and the nearby Quaboag River," Fortune said. "Volunteers are welcome to clean up other rivers or other areas in town, but folks should plan to come by Laviolette Field at 8:30 a.m. to sign in for the event and get trash bags, hand sanitizer, snacks, and gloves if needed."

What areas of the park and river volunteers police and how much trash and debris they remove is up to them, Fortune said.

"Volunteers are encouraged to work within their comfort zone," she said.

"For some folks, that means scaling river banks to get to trash, whereas others might feel more comfortable remaining on level ground. Volunteers are certainly welcome to bring kayaks to facilitate access to trash in remote areas or within the river itself."

## Why it matters

According to Fortune, river clean-ups such as this are important for several reasons.

"And the most important of these reasons is to reduce pollution to our local waterways, which eventually drain to the Atlantic Ocean," she said. "River clean-ups are also important to prepare recreational areas for the upcoming outdoor and recreation season. Clean-up events are additionally helpful in public education by helping folks to understand that everything is connected, and that trash littered today will eventually end up in the ocean."

Palmer has a special relationship with its waterways. The name "Three Rivers" was no coincidence.

"Rivers are an integral part of the town of Palmer, and several rivers serve as the town's boundary with other municipalities," Fortune said.

"Three Rivers in particu-

lar is situated at the heart of the Chicopee Watershed, the largest watershed in the state, and is located at the confluence of the Ware, Swift and Quaboag rivers, which flow together to create the Chicopee River. Several of Palmer's rivers, the Quaboag and the Ware in particular, are heavily polluted and require stewardship in order to promote and maintain clean water and healthy aquatic ecosystems."

## What to bring

Volunteers should wear appropriate clothing, including layers, sturdy shoes and gloves. Since the pandemic is still ongoing, all volunteers are required to wear a face mask while participating in the event. It's probably a good idea to bring a smartphone because it's unknown what volunteers will find.

"The largest item removed from a previous river clean up was a mattress," Fortune said. "The strangest item removed from a previous event was boxer briefs — who forgets their underwear?!"

## Want to sign up?

Everyone is invited to participate in the river clean-up. To sign up, contact Sarah Fortune at 413-626-7084 or sfortune@townof-palmer.com.

## Hardwick Recycling offers bulk waste and textile collection, April 24

HARDWICK — For those who are starting to clean out their homes, attics, barns, garages, basements, closets and other areas and need a place to bring those items, the Hardwick Recycling Center can help. Just load it all up and bring the items to the center's Bulk Waste & Textile Collection Event being held on Saturday, on April 24, from 8 a.m. to noon at the Hardwick Recycling Center. The center is located at 2011 Barre Road in the village of Wheelwright.

It is not necessary to be a Hardwick Recycling Center patron to participate in this event. This event is open to all residents of Hardwick and surrounding towns. So, for those who are not patrons of the center, take some time while at the center to check it out and speak with staff to see the other services it offers.

### Reduce trash costs

Those who pay by the bag for trash removal may find using the recycling center decreases the amount of trash, significantly reducing the cost for trash removal each year. Many of those who have curbside recycling services have chosen to remain or become patrons of the recycling center so they can recycle the hard to manage items (electronics, appliances, tires, motor oil and other items) every day the center is open for operation throughout the year, instead of having to wait for a collection event to be held in their community.

### Bulk items, textiles

Please note, there are fees per bulk waste item, tires, electronics, appliances, fluorescent bulbs and oil filters to cover the cost of hauling and processing.

Not only is it possible to get rid of those bulky, broken/ruined items, such as recliners, chairs, couches, mattresses, sinks, toilets, entertainment centers, suitcases, fencing and bulky styrofoam (bagged), it is also possible to bring in broken electronics, TVs, appliances, light bulbs, ballasts (PCB/non-PCB containing), thermometers, tires, used motor oil, used, scrap metal and textiles.

Some examples of textiles are: rags, clothing, socks/stockings, towels, linens, book bags, backpacks, pocketbooks, shoes, sneakers, boots, belts, pillows, blankets, fabric pieces/rolls, ribbons, yarns and laces. There is no need to worry about holes, stains or socks and footwear missing their match. The only criteria for the textiles are that they are clean and completely dry.

### Swap shed

The center also accepts items in its swap shed at no cost. Those items must be clean and in good working order. Some

examples for the swap shed are books, audio books, CDs, cooking ware, dinnerware, knick-knacks, wall hangings, picture frames, children's toys, tools, sporting equipment, board games, puzzles, spools of yarn and thread, curtains, bedding and shoes and boots. There is no cost to bring those items in. Recycling Center staff will inspect the items before allowing people to drop them off. PLEASE NOTE: We cannot accept any electronics/TV's for drop off at the swap shed.

Come early as there is only one container for bulk waste. Once it is full we will not be accepting more bulk waste items until the fall.

Please contact the center at 413-477-8330 or visit the website [www.hardwickrecycles.org](http://www.hardwickrecycles.org) for further information and pricing of bulk waste items and hard to manage items.

## Public hearings scheduled on additional Quaboag Connector, PVTa shuttle rides

WARE/PALMER — The Pioneer Valley Transit Authority, in partnership with the Quaboag Connector, is proposing to increase service on the Ware-Palmer route, and will hold a public hearing via Zoom to hear from users and the general public on April 21, from 10 to 11:30 a.m., and a second hearing the same day from 3 to 4:30 p.m.

PVTa will provide circulator service in Palmer with the Quaboag Connector providing circulator service in Ware. In addition, Quaboag is proposing the addition of a Belchertown Ware Shuttle that will provide additional service to the town of Ware.

These changes provide the following benefits:

Times of trips to Springfield Union Station change to a morning and a midday trip.

Increase the number of round trips from one to two to the

Eastfield Mall. A morning and afternoon trip will be provided. Both trips will continue beyond the Eastfield Mall to the Springfield Wal-Mart.

An additional trip will be added to Three Rivers so there are four trips instead of three trips. All four trips will start at the Palmer Big Y, follow Park Street to the Dollar General, return via South Main Street and continue to Three Rivers and Bondsville along the current route.

There will also be additional service with four daily trips to Bondsville.

There will be an increase in the number of round trips from four to seven between Palmer Big Y and Ware Wal-Mart.

There will be an Increase in round trips from four to nine trips a day between Ware Wal-Mmart and Ware Center.

The proposed Belchertown Spencer Shuttle provides as much service in Ware as the circulator, but provides more comprehensive service within the community.

There will still be five daily trips in Ware. There will be the same-day microtransit service for connections to the fixed route as well as same-day service for certain on-demand trips.

The meetings will be conducted using the GoToMeeting virtual conferencing software. The morning meeting may be accessed at GoToMeeting, with meeting identification number 603356589 or by calling 1-786-535-3211 and using the same access code.

The afternoon meeting can be accessed at GoToMeeting, with meeting identification number 409974293 or by calling 1-646-749-3122, using the same access code.

## The Library Loft

Schoolhouse Commons Historical Center • 1085 Park Street, Palmer

We are celebrating our

20th year at the Schoolhouse Commons.

Thanks to our wonderful "friends," volunteers and patrons.

### HOURS:

Tues. 10am - 4pm • Wed. 10am - 4pm

Thurs. 10am - 4pm • Fri. 10am-4pm

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE

Book donations will be accepted at the Palmer Public Library or the Library Loft during open hours. Please, no magazines or Reader's Digest Condensed Books. We accept books only in good, clean condition.

For more information call 283-3330 ext. 100

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**Ware River News**

## WEDGEWOOD MOTEL

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Celebrating Over 59 Years of Serving Our Community 1962-2021

Comfortable, Clean and Quiet Rooms at a Great Price.

Route 20, Palmer, MA • 413-283-4501

## Luau To-Go on April 17

WEST BROOKFIELD — The First Congregational Church of W. Brookfield, 36 North Main St., is hosting a Luau To-Go dinner on Saturday, April 17, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Dinner includes Hawaiian sweet and sour chicken, garlic carrots, succulent rice and choice of dessert. Tickets are \$10 each. Call Nancy at 413-267-3863 between 8 a.m. and 7 p.m. to reserve. Pick-up times vary and will be given when reservation is made. Deadline for orders is Thursday, April 14. Pick-up will be in the rear of the church by entering from Church Street.

The Ware River News is on Facebook.



Get updates & post comments.

## How to submit photos and news

Readers, local merchants, institutions, municipalities, non-profit groups, and civic organizations are strongly encouraged to send us their hometown news and photos.

- News items and press releases should be sent in an email to the news editor at [ekennedy@turley.com](mailto:ekennedy@turley.com) as either an MS Word document attachment saved as text only, or pasted directly into your email message screen. Be sure to include who, what,

when, where and why in the submission, preferably written in the third person unless it is a first person letter to the editor or guest column.

- Please send photo captions identifying all subjects in your image(s) from left to right. We need first and last name, hometown, title, if applicable, and a brief description of what subjects are doing in the photo.

- Email uncorrected, raw, RGB color digital photos at highest resolution direct-

ly off your camera, or sized at least 20 inches wide at 72 resolution, 10 inches wide at 200 resolution. They may be emailed as attachments to [ekennedy@turley.com](mailto:ekennedy@turley.com).

- Publicity chairpersons are encouraged to send in news about upcoming fundraising or other calendar events at least three weeks before they take place.

We will respond to all email messages received.

If you don't have e-mail, please mail these materials to:

**80 Main Street, Ware MA 01082**



# Rev. Fitzgibbons called to serve congregations

By Paula Ouimette  
Staff writer

NEW BRAINTREE – Every other week for the past few months, the pulpit at the New Braintree Congregational Church, part of the Tri-Parish Community Church, was filled by Rev. Kathleen Fitzgibbons, an itinerant minister with strong ties to New Braintree. This past Sunday was her last week preaching to the congregation before getting ready to return to her cabin in Maine.

An elementary school principal for 26 years, Fitzgibbons first came to the area in 1985 when she worked at the New Braintree Grade School. She stayed close to 5 years before relocating to a school in Putnam, Connecticut. Fitzgibbons said, “in my other life I was an elementary school principal, but I always wanted to be a minister.”

With her own children grown and out of the house, Fitzgibbons followed her dream and entered seminary school. She began at Bangor Theological Seminary in Maine about 20 years ago, and later went to Hartford Seminary, graduating in 2016. During this time, she worked as a lay minister, sharing God’s message wherever she went. Now, Fitzgibbons travels Maine, as well as other states, as an itinerant minister.

“The work I do in the summer is at the church in Chesuncook Village, an unorganized territory in Maine. I live in a cabin across the lake. The Greater Northern Paper Company owned the village, but went out of date many years ago. They sold the land around the lake to the state of Maine,” Fitzgibbons said. “I learned about the village church while in seminary in Bangor, it’s about two hours from civilization,” she said. The village is home to mostly seasonal residents and was even written about by noted author Henry David Thoreau in his book, “The



The Rev. Kathleen Fitzgibbons has been serving Tri-Parish Community Church and will now return to Maine to serve different, more remote churches.

Maine Woods.” Fitzgibbons also preaches at small island churches off the coast of Maine, although last year she was unable to due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Fitzgibbon has left a lasting impression on the communities she has been a part of, one of which being New Braintree. “I never knew anyone where I was going, I always felt the Lord sent me,” Fitzgibbons said in referencing her travels during her career both as a principal and minister. Former coworker and lifelong

friend Julie Rousseau knew that her church community would benefit from Fitzgibbons’ faith and leadership, and invited her to join them in her “off season.” “Imagine my delight 36 years later, to be called to be minister at the New Braintree Congregational Church,” Fitzgibbons said. “I always feel so comfortable there. The congregation is incredibly earnest and real seekers of God’s will. They are wonderful people,” she said. The Tri-Parish Community Church is currently searching for a part-time

minister. Fitzgibbons said Tri-Parish Community Church is similar to her churches in rural Maine. Many of those small churches have become nondenominational and pool their resources together in order to stay open. She said Tri-Parish is unique because the parishioners split their time throughout the year at locations in Hardwick, Gilbertville and New Braintree. In addition to leading the church services every other Sunday, Fitzgibbons gave support and guidance to the committee in charge of finding a minister. She acted as a cheerleader for the committee as they drafted an advertisement to find the right person for the job. “The ad is out there, I know for sure there is just the right person to put in that place,” Fitzgibbons said. When asked what her favorite part of being a minister was, Fitzgibbons said, “I can stand up there after a great deal of study, planning and prayer, and present a message that is from the bible and make it be real to the people there. I see the people leaning in to hear what God’s word is.” Fitzgibbons emphasized the importance of reading the bible, as it is “a how-to book.” She said it teaches people how to get along with others. “I knew how to know people because of what I learned from reading the bible,” she said. Being able to worship safely during the pandemic has proven a challenge for all area churches. From worshipping via Zoom, to holding services outdoors or from cars. Fitzgibbons said that many people have made the decision to stay away from in-person services, but people in New Braintree continue to worship each week, safely distanced and wearing facemasks. Fitzgibbons said, “I have deep respect for people who will hold fast for what they believe in.”



Ware’s Annual Town Election on Monday, April 12, saw a very low turnout.

WARE from page 1

\$13.3 million to build a water filtration plant that would address manganese and iron in the water. “I’m really excited to get in there and get to work,” said McCarthy, who said she will continue to focus on providing more activities and resources for children in town. “I hope to be bringing the community together. We have to find common ground.” Alan Whitney, who lost by just a handful of votes, was philosophical about not being re-elected. “There were things I wanted to finish, but if that’s what the town wants, that’s what they get,” he said. Whitney said he always done what he thought is right as a SelectBoard member. He wished the board well and said they have many issues to address. Kusnierz said he wished Kruckas and McCarthy well and congratulated them. None of the other positions were contested.

Moderator Kathleen H. Coulombe received 412 votes; School Committee members Michael Foran and Julie Slattery, received 429 and 479 votes, respectively; John Desmond received 526 votes for a Board of Health seat; Craig Simmons won a Cemetery Commission seat with 518 votes, Kimberly E. Swarts won a three-year Parks Commission seat with 525 votes, John Carroll won a one-year Parks Commission seat with 518 votes, Richard A. Starodoj won a five-year Planning Board seat with 524 votes and Jonathan J. Hogan won a five-year term on



SelectBoard candidate Josh Kusnierz stood on Main Street Monday encouraging people to vote for him.

the Ware Housing Authority with 516 votes. No one put in papers for the Board of Assessors seat, but Devin Peterson won it with eight write-in votes, which will be his if he accepts it. The number of people who voted was 693.

## Earth Day Fun at Paige Memorial Library on April 23

HARDWICK – The Paige Memorial Library will celebrate Earth Day with an outdoor storybook reading on April 23, at 3 p.m., and the theme is Restore Our Earth. For this celebration the library at 87 Petersham Road, is offer-

ing patrons DIY marigold garden kits complete with pot, soil, seeds, wooden labels and directions. Take them home and watch them grow. Just add water and attention. We are also offering an outdoor storybook reading which will take

place at 3 pm on April 23. Registration is important so the library knows how many Marigold Gardens each registered child need and how many chairs are needed to carry outdoors. Please register for the Marigold

Garden kit and for the story time by calling Paige Library at 413-477-6704 or emailing director. paigelibrary@gmail.com. Come join the library wearing masks to sit in chairs at six-foot spaces.

12345678910111213

141516171819202122232425262728293031323334353637383940414243444546474849505152535455565758596061626364656667686970

CLUES ACROSS

1. Pituitary hormone (abbr.)

4. Ceramic jars

9. Monetary units

14. Alias

15. "Superman" actor

16. Britonic tribe

17. Shorten

18. LA Dodgers manager

20. Hoarded

22. Theatrically portray

23. Noah's grandson

24. Dependent

28. Peyton's little brother

29. Cools the house

30. Principle part of

31. Type of wrap

33. Peels

37. Commercial

38. Make an attempt

39. Arrange in steps

41. U. Utah athlete

42. Old English

43. Trade

44. Nostrils

46. Ticket seller \_\_Hub

49. Of I

50. Institute legal proceedings against

51. Takes apart

55. Doorway

58. Long int'l river

59. Trailblazing athlete

60. Former CBS News host

64. Sign language

65. Badgerlike mammal

66. Thin strips of wood

67. Brooklyn hoopster

68. Portents of good or evil

69. Footwear

70. When you think you'll arrive

CLUES DOWN

1. Battflower genus

2. Predatory seabirds

3. Fish farm

4. Arrangements

5. Go in advance of others

6. Bulgarian monetary unit

7. " \_\_ Maria"

8. W. African ethnoreligious group

9. Wild Asian oxen genus

10. Vinegary

11. To this

12. Explosive

13. Female sibling

19. Orlando museum (abbr.)

21. Type of hoop

24. About Holy Father

25. Academic environment

26. Extremely angry

27. Surrenders

31. Swiss mountain pass

32. Sharp mountain ridge

34. Erases

35. Spielberg's alien

36. Absurd

40. Dorm worker

41. Used to make pesticides

45. The sister of your father or mother

47. A way to let know

48. Can't produce much vegetation

52. Small streams

53. Folk singer DiFranco

54. Weights

56. Start over

57. Black Sea resort city

59. Wimbledon champ

60. Corporate executive (abbr.)

61. Unskilled actor who overacts

62. Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!

63. Of or relating to ears

Share Some

GOOD NEWS!

Birth Announcements

Welcome, Hayley Ryan!

Born April 22, 2019

9 lbs, 22 inches

Proud Parents

Lydia & Mike Ryan

Place your FREE Announcement in the Ware River News.

Photos Encouraged

To submit your announcement complete this form and send to Ware River News, 80 Main St., Ware, MA 01082 Or email: [ekennedy@turley.com](mailto:ekennedy@turley.com)

Baby's First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents (names & hometown): \_\_\_\_\_

Siblings (names & hometown): \_\_\_\_\_

Maternal Grandparents (names & hometown): \_\_\_\_\_

Paternal Grandparents (names & hometown): \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_ Additional info: \_\_\_\_\_

WHS from page 1

area manufacturers, to provide internships opportunities at those businesses. It will also partner with Holyoke Community College to provide Advanced Manufacturing students with ongoing exposure to college-level opportunities and college-planning assistance. Bearing the old adage, “it takes a village” to raise a child, School Superintendent Dr. Marlene DiLeo and Jan Yardley, the district’s accountability, Title I and grants coordinator, began looking for ways to offer students an additional career pathway. “It’s imperative that these kids succeed in life,” she said. “Manufacturing can provide well-paying jobs and career advancement.” They first pursued a Project Lead the Way grant for Ware Middle School, which focuses on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, or STEM, knowledge, and pursued a grant so Ware High could offer engineering courses. With both those pieces in place, which were requirements to receive the designation, the high school was recently designated as a pathway to manufacturing school. “This has taken a lot of hard work and perseverance, but we’re on our way,” DiLeo said when discussing the designation recently. “We wanted to have a STEM pathway throughout the district.” DiLeo said it was important to give students this opportunity while building a pipeline of future manufacturing engineers for the future. She said the process all started back in 2018 when she and local businessman David Kirk took part in a session on manufacturing in the area. With the help of River East School-To-Careers, Ware schools were able to connect with local manufacturers, such as Vibram and Kansaki. “We asked them what we could do here in the school and they’ve helped us,” she said. School officials continued to meet with manufacturers on a regular basis to find out what they needed, and those talks eventually led to working toward the Innovation Pathway in Manufacturing. In announcing the pathways, state education officials pointed to the work of the schools and how they help students. “It is a testament to the success and importance of these programs that despite the challenges of the last year, high schools moved forward with creating more early career opportunities for students,” said Education Secretary James Peyser. “These programs give students relevant and valuable experience that helps them think about their future career paths, something that may have been sidetracked during the health crisis. “High school students who have opportunities to explore Innovation Pathways gain valuable experience and knowledge about growing industries, while gaining credentials and credits and insight into whether it is something they would like to pursue in their future,” said Elementary and Secondary Education Commissioner Jeffrey C. Riley. “These opportunities are opening doors for many students across the commonwealth.”



# Ware Cultural Council awards almost \$9,500 in grants

WARE – The Ware Cultural Council is pleased to announce that it has awarded \$9,488 in grants to local organizations this year.

The organizations that were awarded the grants are: Ware Middle School, Ware Family Center, Young Men’s Library, Uniquely Quabbin Magazine, Northeast Fine Arts Exhibit (Workshop13), Dog Park Mural & Paw Walk (Workshop13), Mid-Summer Music & Arts Festival (Workshop13), Summer STEAM for Kids (Workshop13), and Colorful Sidewalks. Congratulations to all the recipients.

Each project was awarded their grant to foster the mission of the Ware Cultural Council. The Cultural Council looks to fund programs that help elevate the quality of life, embrace the diversity and empower generations through creativity for the benefit of the residents of Ware.

We are very grateful to the Massachusetts Cultural Council and to our local legislators, state Sen. Anne Gobi and State Rep. Todd Smola, for their service and dedication to the arts, sciences and humanities.

Membership to the Ware Cultural Council is open to the public. For membership information please call Aileen 413-961-9003.

Please check the local listings for dates and times of events including a few 2020 rescheduled events such as the Summer Concerts at the Meeting House and the Senior Center.

# Farmer Matt moves to New Braintree

Farm-fresh meals offered to-go

By Paula Ouimette  
Staff Writer

NEW BRAINTREE – On Sept. 11, 2020, Matt “Farmer Matt” Koziol purchased his “forever home” for his growing business at the former Grass Roots Farm, 860 West Brookfield Road.

Well-known in the area for his beef as well as his custom hay-making for local farms, Koziol has recently delved into providing an assortment of farm fresh meals to go and much more. A West Brookfield resident, he has been farming for over a decade, at one point owning 200 head of cattle. He has reduced his herd size, but is still selling his beef to stores such as Wegman’s and Stop & Shop, and of course, at his own location.

Koziol’s new location has had a lengthy history in the farming community of New Braintree, locally known as Wespalis Farm, and more recently as Grass Roots Farm operated by Tim and Kristin Bohan. The circa 1700s farmhouse located on the property was lost to a devastating fire in March of 2016. As Grass Roots Farm, the Bohans added many features to the property, one of which is a top-of-the-line commercial kitchen. When Koziol found the location and saw the kitchen, he said, “I knew I had to have it, but didn’t know what I was going to do with it.”

His question of what to do with the commercial kitchen was soon answered by Chef John Marty and Wayne and Michele Clayborne, of Glover Farms Baking Company. Marty has close to 40 years of

experience in the kitchen, including being a chef at the Hilton at Logan Airport in Boston. While his specialty has been classical French cuisine, Marty adds his own flair to a traditional American menu offered at Farmer Matt’s. The menu changes each week and reflects the produce that is in peak season. Koziol is proud of the fact that Marty uses local ingredients in the food he produces, making it a truly “farm-to-table” dining experience. Koziol is currently working with 10 local farmers to provide the freshest ingredients to his customers and support the local economy.

### Sweet stuff

No meal is complete without something sweet to cap it off, and the pastries and baked goods offered by Glover Farms Baking Company, located in West Brookfield, complement Chef Marty’s hearty meals perfectly. Owners Wayne and Michele Clayborne make a variety of desserts including pies, muffins, cookies, cakes and cupcakes, and cheesecakes that have been described as “the best ever,” by customers. The bakery at Farmer Matt’s opens at 9 a.m. both Saturday and Sunday.

Joining Chef Marty and the Claybornes in the kitchen is Koziol’s girlfriend, Brandi Pasternack. He said two of the most popular meals to-go food items are Chef Marty’s St. Louis ribs and Pasternack’s homemade mac and cheese. Koziol said Pasternack helps tremendously to keep the business on track as their customer base continues to grow.

People have come from all over Central Massachusetts and the response has been positive. “Everything has been amazing. Customers come every week and



Farmer Matt’s has to-go dinner options as well as fresh beef and will soon have outdoor eating soon.

tell their friends...we see new faces every week,” he said.

### Outdoor dining

With warmer weather arriving, he will be adding handicapped-accessible picnic tables and portable toilets for outdoor dining. He is also redesigning the parking lot and adding handicapped parking to make the store accessible to all. In addition to outdoor seating, Farmer Matt hopes to add live music for the summer.

Recently, he invited an expert to teach a fruit tree-pruning class on the farm and he hopes to continue to add more hands-on, educational classes. On Saturday, April 10, Brian Ayers, of Long Hill Farm in Brookfield, will teach “Introduction to Beekeeping” at Farmer Matt’s. More information and registration for this program is available at [farmermattwb.com](http://farmermattwb.com).

Coming soon in early April will be “build your own burger” Thursdays (held weather permitting). He will have the grill ready to customize each customer’s ideal burger.

Spring hours are Thursday and Friday, from 4 to 7 p.m., Saturday, from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Sunday,



Turley Publications Photos by Paula Ouimette

Farmer Matt is shown with dogs Rolly and Klaus at his new location, 860 West Brookfield Road, New Braintree.

Farmer Matt shows some of the farm-fresh beef he has available for purchase at his new location.



Quaboag Regional Middle/High School Fishing Club members Connor Burgess and Jacob Cacace fish under the bridge in Lucy Stone Park.

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We will publish them in our Car Parade Section!  
[ekennedy@turley.com](mailto:ekennedy@turley.com)



QRMHS Assistant Principal Anthony Cacace caught several nice rainbow trout by fly fishing.

## The fish are jumpin’



QRMHS Fishing Club member Lynne Merrill found a great spot on the Quaboag River to throw a line in.

WARREN – The Quaboag Regional Middle /High School Fishing Club held its first fishing trip last week. A group of staff and students met after school at Lucy Stone Park to fish the Quaboag River. Several nice trout were caught and released while students and staff were fishing near the bridge despite it being two weeks since that area had been stocked.

The Fishing Club plans to conduct more fishing outings and is open to any Quaboag student. Parents and siblings are welcomed and encouraged to join in too. Contact teacher Joseph Salvatore or Anthony Cacace if interested.

# Send Us Your Summer Event Information

Turley Publications will print your summer calendar listings FREE OF CHARGE in our SUMMERFEST Supplement which publishes early June.

Deadline for submissions is May 4th.

## Community Summer Events

Event Should Be Non-Profit & Open to the Public

FREE Calendar Listings Reaching over 200,000 Readers in the Pioneer Valley

Event Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date/Time \_\_\_\_\_

Location \_\_\_\_\_

Description \_\_\_\_\_

Cost \_\_\_\_\_

Contact name & phone number for more information \_\_\_\_\_

Please specify if you would like your name and number printed in the paper.

CLIP OUT AND MAIL TO:  
Turley Publications, Attn: Jamie Joslyn, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069  
or email\* them to: [jamie@turley.com](mailto:jamie@turley.com)  
\*Be sure to indicate “Summer” in the subject line of your email.





This paper mache likeness of Freddie Mercury, was made by Mason, age 13.



Ethan, age 13, displays his work, including a photo he took of his friend and fellow HYC member, Jocelyn.



Turley Publications staff photos by Paula Ouimette  
Gabe, age 12, shows off his paper mache "big head" of Michael Jackson.



Jocelyn, age 13 enjoyed challenging herself through photography.



A clay tile made by one of the members of HYC.

**WORKSHOP** from page 1

beautiful, rural landscape for which Hardwick is known. HYC Director Laurie Desjardins said, "we have only been able to (in-person) serve our sixth through 12th-graders due to the difficulty of social distancing of younger groups. We spent our time outdoors hiking, fishing, crayfishing, learning about nature, sledding and supporting each other masked and social distanced. The second to fifth-graders have met twice to sled and play kickball."

The cold winter months proved a challenge for outdoor gathering and Workshop 13 was able to provide a one-of-a-kind art immersion experience for the sixth through 12th-graders of HYC. Desjardins said, "Through a fabulous collaboration with Workshop 13 and generous grants we have spent our winter months creating art," Desjardins said. She is planning on continuing this collaboration with Workshop13 next winter as well. The program is supported in part by a grant from the Hardwick-New Braintree Cultural Council, a local agency, which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency. It was also made possible by funding from the Barre Savings Charitable Foundation.

Instructor Faith Ward, who teaches Art is for Everyone in Monson, led most of the classes with the students. Ward said the HYC students learned "more stuff than they would in college," from



Sadie, age 12, holds up her favorite photograph she took.

needle felting, to photography, to paper mache and pottery. She said the students provided input on different techniques they wanted to learn, and she and other Workshop 13 instructors provided the guidance. "It's been a wonderful gathering of HYC and Workshop 13," said Ward of the experience.

All the HYC youth involved in the Workshop13 art classes, had positive things to say about the experience. While they found

some of the techniques challenging, they were all proud of their results. Morgan, age 13, said making a paper mache "big head" was the hardest technique to master, but making a clay dish in the ClayWorks studio was her favorite experience.

"The Workshop 13 program was a great experience with all involved; it was great for the youth to try different types of art, to take risks and to discover in themselves what passions they may have," Desjardins said. "Art truly is for everyone - not every medium but one aspect - which was great we got to try so many types so the youth could experience art."

Reilly said HYC is unique to other youth programs as it receives funding from the town each year. "The town supports the HYC in its annual budget...and Hardwick is the only town in the Quabog and Quabbin Regions that does that—that is how remarkable it is," she said. HYC also relies on grants from the state, and donations from local businesses and individuals. "Everyone in town benefits and knows this," Reilly said of the program. "Families whose children attend. The children as they grow up and become volunteers with younger kids and the town," she said.

"HYC youth are very fortunate to live in a town where the people see the importance of a youth center and financially support it," Desjardins said. "We are very

thankful to the town and to the individuals who donate supplies and money."

Desjardins said, "we focus on meeting youth 'where they are' without passing judgement. We strive to increase youth self-esteem, social-emotional well-being, and promote creating a 'team atmosphere' where the youth begin looking out for each other. HYC youth Natalie, age 14, said the center provides the space to meet people and form friendships. "It also allows me to go new places in the town I live and nearby," she said. Jocelyn, age 13, said HYC allows youth to "express yourself in a way you wouldn't in other places." Ethan, age 13, said he liked "getting to see his friends" at HYC. Lindsey, age 13, said she likes the inclusiveness of HYC and "how nice people are."

In addition to the collaboration with Workshop13, HYC has also partnered with the East Quabbin Land Trust to provide outdoor learning experiences. Older HYC youth will continue to meet weekly for outdoor activities through the spring and early summer. Desjardin said HYC is hopeful all age groups can begin meeting in the fall.

People can support HYC by making donations to the Town of Hardwick and designating those funds to the Hardwick Youth Center. People may also contact Reilly at 413-477-6635 if they have questions or want to talk about needs and gifts.

# GOT DRUGS?



Do you or your relatives have a medicine cabinet full of old medication?  
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Simply bring them to your local police station and drop them in the MEDRETURN BOX.

Medicines can remain in original containers with labels.  
No liquids, syringes, IV equipment or chemotherapy drugs. Prescription and non-prescription drugs, vitamins and veterinary meds are accepted.





For more information: [NorthwesternDA.org](http://NorthwesternDA.org)

**20TH NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION**

# DRUG TAKE BACK DAY

BRING YOUR UNWANTED DRUGS FOR FREE DISPOSAL

## SATURDAY

# APRIL 24, 2021

**10am-2pm**

### HAMPSHIRE COUNTY

**AMHERST** - Wilwood Elementary School  
**BELCHERTOWN** - Park Street On The Common  
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# SPORTS

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## Indians score 34 unanswered points in win



Dillon Slattery takes the quarterback keeper.



Rockeem Handfield fakes and then heads to the right.

By Tim Peterson  
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW—The Ludlow football team built a 19-0 lead against Ware less than two minutes into the third quarter of their home opener. The momentum shifted sides at that point.

The Indians, who didn't move the ball into Ludlow territory for the first time until the third quarter, scored the final five touchdowns of the contest leading to a 34-19 come-from-behind victory, last Friday night.

"We just needed to find a spark in the second half," said Ware head coach Mike Fazio. "We played with a lot more energy and we made some big plays, which gave us the momentum. The kids just did a very good job."

Two key players during the second half comeback for the visiting team were junior Andrew Soltys and senior Dillon Slattery.

Soltys scored a pair of rushing touchdowns from the Wildcat formation. He also completed a long touchdown pass. Slattery, who's the Indians starting quarterback, contributed with a pair of rushing touchdowns.

"Our backs were up against the wall, but everyone just stepped up in the second half," said Andrew Soltys, who's the back-up QB. "Coach (Mike) Fazio told us at halftime to just start the game over, which is exactly what we did. It was an amazing team win tonight."

It was the first meeting between the two high school's on the gridiron since the fall of 2012. Ware squeaked out a 36-34 home win in that contest. A year earlier, the Lions celebrated a 16-14 home win over



Andrew Soltys heads down the sideline after receiving the ball.

Photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

the Indians.

Last Friday's victory improved Ware's season record to 3-1, while Ludlow, who were shutout in their previous two road games, fell to 1-3. The Lions began the Fall II season with 35-6 win versus Putnam at Berte Field located on the

Springfield Central campus.

The Lions played their first home game since defeating rival Palmer, 41-8, in the annual Thanksgiving Day game on November 28, 2019.

"It was nice to finally play a home game after a year and a half," said Ludlow head coach Ray Saloio.

"I wish we could've played a little bit better for our fans."

The players parents from both teams were able to attend last Friday's game. The Ware cheerlead-

Please see **INDIANS**, page 10

## Gameplay largely unaffected in baseball modifications

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
gscibelli@turley.com

REGION – While gameplay will remain largely the same, many high school baseball players will have to change a number of habits at least to start the baseball season in May.

Baseball is a game of superstition, habitual repetition of certain motions and the needed to do things like spit seeds and chew gum.

But under the modifications to the sport made by the Office of Environmental and Energy Affairs, players will have to refrain some certain behaviors, wear masks, and maintain distance despite the game itself involving a lot of distance.

The EEA, which has been making modifications to high school sports and working with the MIAA to ensure safe play during the pandemic, did not have to do much to change how the game of baseball is played. But a number of the "dirty" habits needed to be curtailed to make it safer.

Consumption and spitting of sunflower and other seeds are prohibited this season. Players

also cannot chew or spit during games. Spitting is also a major habit in baseball, and is banned for high schoolers and adults.

In high school, following warm-ups each half-inning, it is common for infielders, the catcher, and pitcher to have a brief "hype-up" huddle. That action is now banned to limit close contact among players.

If a coach wants to bring the infield into a huddle to discuss a strategy, six-foot distancing is required. Otherwise, the EEA is encouraging coaches to limit mound visits in general, and typically just to one coach, a pitcher, and a catcher.

High-fives and hand shakes are also extremely common in baseball, especially after a runner scores or an at-bat has been completed. While fist-bumps are not specifically banned, the EEA says players must refrain from hand-touching, which includes high-fives, and handshakes. Like all sports, the post-game handshake is suspended until the pandemic has ended.

In order to increase grip on the

Please see **BASEBALL**, page 10



Quarterback and team captain Jordan Talbot escapes a tackle during the shortened game against Northampton. In the background is head coach Joseph Baldyga.



Senior Richard Martin (34), a fullback and linebacker and also a team captain, and Austin Lagimoniere (21) both try to get their hands on the ball during the game against the Blue Devils. The Pioneers played despite having only 13 eligible players.

Photos by David Henry

## With barely enough for a team, Pathfinder shows Pioneer spirit

By Jonah Snowden  
jsnowden@turley.com

PALMER – Sports is supposed to build character and the Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical School football team showed it has plenty of it.

The Pioneers demon-

strated their willingness to persevere through any obstacles, regardless of the outcome, during a recent game against Northampton High School's Blue Devils. The team went into the March 28 game with only 13 eligible players and despite the disadvantage, came to play. The game was called at half-

time with Pathfinder on the long end of a 35-0 score. Coach Joseph Baldyga said despite the effort, he had to consider the team's health and safety and decided it was best to call it a day and regroup for the next game.

Please see **PATHFINDER**, page 13

## Racing action kicks off at Icebreaker event

THOMPSON, Conn. — Hudson, NH's Derek Griffith went wire-to-wire to capture the Pro All Stars Series (PASS) Thompson 75 at the annual Icebreaker on Saturday, April 10. Griffith grabbed the lead in the first corner and was on a rail from there, claiming victory in the headliner for the afternoon session of the 82nd Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park season opener.

Griffith's win kept the young star perfect on the PASS Super Late Model season. He captured both PASS National Easter Bunny 150 events at North Carolina's

Hickory Motor Speedway the previous weekend. Now Griffith also has a win in the PASS North championship opener.

It took less than 500 feet for Griffith to get to the front at Thompson. He started second after winning the second qualifying heat, and when polesitter Ben Rowe had trouble coming up to speed, Griffith and several others shot past.

The only thing that could slow Griffith was the race's lone caution on lap 3 when Garrett Hall tagged the backstretch wall. When the field went green again, Griffith put

the hammer down. Rowley, MA's Eddie "The Outlaw" MacDonald gave chase as best he could, and could narrow the gap some in traffic, but Griffith restored his margin every time they got clear.

Even as multiple other drivers had strong runs go sour in the unseasonable warm weather, Griffith never wavered. He ultimately put more than half the field a lap down and cruised to an impressive win.

"I love it here," Griffith said after the race. "I tell people all the time about how cool the Icebreaker is and how big of a weekend it is.

You know we travel everywhere and not everybody understands how big of a weekend it is — and not just for PASS...so to come get another (win) here is pretty cool. It's definitely one to mark off."

MacDonald finished second with Center Conway, NH's Gabe Brown a comfortable third. Rowe recovered from his early troubles and held off Rowland Robinson Jr. for fourth. Reigning PASS North champion D.J. Shaw, Johnny Clark, Corey Casagrande, Mike Scorzelli,

Please see **RACING**, page 10



Keith Rocco was a winner at last weekend's Icebreaker event.

## New head coach for Blue Sox

HOLYOKE—The Valley Blue Sox are proud to announce the signing of Hezekiah (Hez) Randolph as the new head coach beginning this 2021 season.

"I couldn't be more excited to join the Blue Sox as head coach," said Randolph, who has a colorful history with the Sox, from being a player in the 2016 season to joining the coaching staff as a hitting coach in 2018.

"I think everyone's goal is to one day fill the position of head coach, so I am first thrilled to take on this role." He continued, "Secondly, to be the head coach for the Blue Sox, an organization that holds a special place in my heart."

Randolph, 25, hails from Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and is an alumnus of the University of New Orleans, where he played collegiate baseball at the Division I level.

"I'm a southern kid, and I started playing unorganized baseball when I was two years old with my parents. I was hitting balls across the room," he laughed, "and that's when my dad decided that baseball was something that he should start investing in for me."

Randolph played baseball, basketball, and football at Parkview Baptist High School in Baton Rouge, where he discovered his passion for baseball, although "most people thought that football was my better sport," he said. After dropping basketball, his "first love," he ended up loving baseball more and more, and "it became the sport I saw myself playing at the next level."

Randolph excelled at the University of New Orleans, starting as a freshman and contributing to the "tough turnaround" of the team. He led the Privateers in RBI (31), doubles (11), home runs (4), and slugging percentage (.433), in addition to being named a Louisville Slugger Freshman All-American in his first year and All-Louisiana First Team in his senior year.

The summer after his junior year, the Blue Sox staff reached out to Randolph's college coach in hopes of having him join the 2016 roster.

"They actually thought I was some kind of myth," Randolph recalled, "Why would a guy from New Orleans, Louisiana show up to Massachusetts?"

In the end, Randolph did show up. He spent the summer with the Blue Sox, and was selected for the New England Collegiate Baseball League All-Star Game, in addition to earning second-team honors.

Randolph found a home with the Blue Sox organization. "It was probably the best time of my life. I had an awesome host family who I still communicate with, as they were such an amazing blessing to me. They continue to help me develop as a man and I truly view them as family," He said.

When he wasn't playing that summer, Randolph spent his free time giving hitting lessons. "I was developing as a player myself, but also learning how to develop other players to be able to reach their own goals."

Randolph's coaching style and philosophy originates in large part from the teachings of the previous Blue Sox head coach and current Director of Baseball Operations, John Raiola.

"John has been an amazing mentor for me. I never really experienced a coach put in the time to develop the person and not just the athlete," said Randolph. "The mental part of it is always going to play a part

Please see **BLUE SOX**, page 10



# Sign up for Quabbin Valley Baseball

REGION – The Quabbin Valley Baseball League is an age 28-and-over league which plays its games Sundays at 10 a.m. beginning in late April and concluding in late August. It is a six-team league and a 15-game schedule with all teams getting at least one play-off game at the end of August.

The league is seeking new players to join in the fun. The cost to play in 2021 is \$192.50 and registration can be found at [www.quabbinvalleybaseball.org](http://www.quabbinvalleybaseball.org). Games are mostly being played this year in Easthampton and South Hadley. Players who wish to pitch in the league must be 30-years-old.

Sign-ups are active and players who are not already on a team will be placed in a draft, currently scheduled to take place on Sunday, April 11.

The league’s first games are tentatively scheduled for Sunday, April 25. For the 2021 season, there is a mask-wearing rule, as well as modifications that prohibit any type of spitting or close contact, and players are required to take out all trash they bring in with them. The league allows the use of BBCOR-certified -3 bats as well as wood bats. Games are nine innings and all players who participate get to hit and play the field. For more information or to contact someone from the league, go to the league’s website.

INDIANS from page 9

ers performed at halftime.

The home team parents had plenty to cheer about during the first half.

Despite a couple of illegal procedures penalties on the opening drive of the game, Ludlow senior quarterback Chris Fogg marched his team right down the field. Senior running back Jamonte Beckett capped off the 10-play drive, which were all runs, with a seven-yard dash into the endzone with 5:26 remaining in the opening quarter. Junior running Michael Gilrein carried the ball three times during the opening series.

The extra point was made by Ethan Lapa, who was a member of the Lions boys’ varsity soccer team the past three years.

The Lions offense got the ball right back two minutes later following a fumble recovery by sophomore Adam Krutka.

The score would remain 7-0 until late in the first half. That’s when Fogg sprinted 42 yards down the middle of the field into the end zone. The extra point attempt was blocked giving the home team a 13-0 half-time lead.

“We held the lead at halftime, but we certainly didn’t feel very comfortable about it,” Saloio said. “We just made too many poor decisions during the second half and we didn’t execute very well.”

The members of the Lions offensive line, who made big holes for Beckett and Fogg to run through in the first half, are senior Tom Hitchcock, senior center Jake LaDuke, senior Joe Villano, junior Joe Bates, and Adam Krutka.

On the first play of the second half, Ludlow sophomore Michael Sternowski Jr. recovered a fumble at midfield.

Five plays later, Fogg scored his second rushing touchdown on a one-yard dive into the end zone behind LaDuke, which increased the Lions lead to 19-0.



Jack Tweedie attempts to make a tackle.

Photo by David Henry [www.sweetdogphotos.com](http://www.sweetdogphotos.com)

Ware sophomore John Auchter tackled Beckett before he reached the goal-line on the two-point conversion play.

The Indians players gave their parents a lot to cheer about after that.

On the ensuing offensive series, the Indians offense only needed two plays to reach the end zone for the first time.

Andrew Soltys took the snap from sophomore center Camren McCormick and sprinted 51 yards down the right sideline before being tackled at the Ludlow 24 yard

line on the first down play. On the next play, he ran down the opposite sideline into the endzone.

“We just made a couple of big plays in the second half,” Fazio said. “Andrew did a great job for us tonight.”

The extra point attempt came up a little bit short making the score 19-6 with 9:51 left in the third quarter.

After the Ware defense forced Ludlow to punt, it didn’t take the Indians very long to score another touchdown.

Slattery called his own number and gained 28 yards with a power run up the middle. Then Andrew Soltys took another direct snap and raced 51 yards down the left sideline for his second rushing TD of the game slicing the Indians deficit to 19-12.

Andrew Soltys gave a lot of credit to the offensive line following the game. The members of the Indians O-line are senior Jack Tweedie, senior Dom Velazquez, junior Nick Gambino, McCormick and Auchter.

“The linemen made some big holes during the second half,” Andrew Soltys said. “They made it very easy for me.”

Ware’s third touchdown of the third quarter came on a one-yard run by Slattery with 1:31 remaining on the scoreboard clock.

Instead of trying another extra point attempt, Slattery connected with Andrew Soltys in the end zone on the two-point conversion try giving the Indians the lead for the first time at 20-19.

The Indians only pass attempt of the second half was thrown by Andrew Soltys. His long pass was caught by his older brother, John, who’s a first-year member of the football team. He then sprinted into the end zone completing the 67-yard play with 7:45 remaining in regulation.

“We executed that play very well,” Fazio said. “It put us over the hump.”

John and Andrew aren’t the first members of their family to play football at Ware High School. Their father, Gary, was a member of the football team in the late 1980’s. He also coached the boys’ varsity basketball team for several years.

With the Indians holding a 26-19 advantage with 3:26 left on the scoreboard clock, a two-yard TD run by Slattery capped off the game’s scoring. Slattery hooked up with John Soltys on the two-point conversion play.

A minute later, an interception by senior Shawn Santiago sealed the deal for the Indians.

RACING from page 9

and Dan Winter rounded out the top-10.

Berlin, CT’s Keith Rocco came out on top of a barnburner to win the Sunoco Modified season opener. Rocco started fourth in the 30-lap main event and took the lead from Oxford, MA’s Troy Talman on a lap-9 restart after Christian Turissi’s spin.

Wolcott, CT’s Mike Christopher moved into the runner-up spot following the second caution on lap 13. Rocco and Christopher pulled away from the field nose-to-tail for several laps, but with seven to go, the real battle began. Christopher dove inside Rocco entering turn 3, the first of what would be six passes in as many laps. Rocco, however, kept putting his Modified out front at the start/finish line where it counted.

As the duo got the two-to-go signal, Christopher finally had the lead by a nose at the line and cleared Rocco entered turn one. Rocco went back underneath him in the third turn, and the two banged nerf bars. Christopher slid up the track, allowing Rocco to get away for another victory in his dominating Thompson Speedway career.

Talman and Todd Owen also got past Christopher thanks to the late contact, finishing second and third in the final run-



Sean Newcomb also picked up a win.

down. Christopher had to settle for fourth. Danny Cates, Jonathan Puleo, John Lowinski-Loh, Richard Williams, Jason Sundeen, and Paul LaPlante completed the top-10.

Franklin, MA’s Bobby Santos III kicked off his Icebreaker weekend with a victory in the 25-lap NEMA LITES Midgits feature. Santos started seventh in the Matt and Bob Seymour-owned #1, and after a slow start, began him march to the front.

He inherited the second spot on lap 13 when Dan Cugini’s Midget shut down, then caught leader Jim Santa Maria with eight laps to go.

One lap later, Santos drove beneath Santa Maria on the front stretch and cleared him entering turn 1. It was no contest from there as Santos sailed to the victory.

Santa Maria came in second followed by Jake Trainor. Kyle Valeri, Richie Coy,

Paul Scally, Christopher Vose, Tiana Kibbe, Matt Seavy, and Cugini finched fourth through 10th.

Plymouth, MA Paul Newcomb ended a frenetic two days on a high note by winning the 25-lap Street Stock Open feature. Newcomb started fourth and found an opening early, muscling beneath polesitter Ryan Waterman in turn four to take the lead after two laps.

Candia, NH’s Jimmy Renfrew Jr. was the only driver who could even come close to hanging with Newcomb on the ensuing green-flag run. Renfrew got a shot on a restart with eight laps to go after Zachary Mead’s spin. But the #00 got loose exiting turn four the following lap. Renfrew eventually slid back to fourth as Newcomb marched to the victory.

Waterman finished second with Kyle Gero third. Joe Kohler, Wayne Coury, Bobby Segar Jr., Devin McConologue, Justin Travis, and Nick Hovey also earned top-10 finishes.

Freeport, NY’s Gerard Giordano Jr. won a photo finish over Warwick, RI’s Ryan Vanasse in the 35-lap EXIT Realty Pro Truck Challenge feature. Vanasse had pulled away in the middle stages of the event, but Giordano had the better long-run truck and ran him down with seven laps to go. The fourth and final caution came out soon after, setting up a four-lap dash to the

finish.

Vanasse initially cleared Giordano on the restart. With two laps to go, though, Giordano ducked back inside. Entered turn for the final time, the duo touched and got sideways. After gathering it up, they banged doors again coming to the line. It was Giordano, the former series champion, edging Vanasse by 0.015 seconds for the win.

Waterford, CT’s Emma Monahan had a strong run for third. Duane Noll, Connor Souza, Joe Arena, Andy Lindeman, Todd Taylor, Joseph Coates, and Randy Coates opened their season with top-10 finishes.

Sterling, CT’s Jared Roy continued his domination of the Thompson Mini Stocks with a victory in their 15-lap feature. Roy came from seventh on the starting grid to run down Steven Michalski at the halfway mark. After ducking inside Michalski as the leaders completed lap nine, Roy completed the pass entering turn one a circuit later.

Coming out of turn four the next time around, Michalski broke loose and spun to bring out the race’s only caution. Roy had a rear-view mirror full of Gales Ferry, CT’s Thomas Silva over the final four laps, but held on for the victory. Dave Trudeau, Douglas Curry, and Charles Canfield completed the top-five.

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BASEBALL from page 9

bat, many players often spit on their hands and/or batting gloves. That practice is also not allowed, especially in the case of players sharing bats.

All shared equipment, specifically batting helmets and bats, and in some cases, catcher’s gear, must all be properly sanitized between uses by different players. However, it can be shared unlike previous seasons and other sports where equipment could not be shared at all.

Game-play itself, is otherwise unaffected. While masks are required, there are no extra timeouts for water breaks as they are built in when a team is batting. There are no modifications to situations where players are in closer contact, such as the batter to catcher close distance, or a baserunner to a first baseman.

The spring season is scheduled to begin on April 26 with games beginning a week or two later. The spring season will go to July 3.

BLUE SOX from page 9

in a players performance, and John definitely got me to understand that.”

Randolph was coaching a travel team when Raiola called to offer him the position as head coach.

“Throughout that summer, I enjoyed coaching so much that I thought to myself: If I love it so much, why not do it for a living? This was an opportunity I could not pass up.” He recalls.

In anticipation of the season, Randolph is looking forward to figuring out how to connect to his players as a head coach.

“The dynamic [from being an assistant coach to a head coach] is different.” He said, “The players feel like they can be a little more comfortable with you, because, at the end of the day, an assistant doesn’t really make the lineup.

I think that is going to be the most interesting part, as John really taught me how important it is to be able to connect with your players and find out how you are going to motivate them. If you’re coaching a bunch of unmotivated guys, it’s going to be hard to drive them to win and be the best player that they can be. At the end of the day, developing players is what this is all about.” He said.

Randolph’s experience with the Blue Sox gave him a new outlook on the game of baseball, and he could not be more excited to begin his journey as head coach. According to Randolph, “this opportunity pretty much changed my life.”



# Keep in touch with kids at camp

Summer camp is an exciting way for children to spend their extended vacations from the classroom. Camps cater to various interests, including sports, crafts and even technological hobbies.

Children who attend overnight camps may spend several nights away from home. Some kids take this in stride, while others, possibly away from home for the first time, may experience some homesickness. Staying in touch while the kids are at camp can help alleviate fears and show children their parents care.

Camps now handle communication issues differently than they might have when today's parents were campers. While it once common for campers to send handwritten letters or short missives home to mom and dad, technology has changed that. Today's campers may have access to email accounts, or they even may be allowed to bring mobile phones along. This can facilitate communication, but it also may take away from the camping experience.

Parents need to find a balance between what might be too little or too much contact with campers. After all, camp is kids' chance to grow independent for a few days or weeks.

- Learn camp rules. The camp will likely provide information regarding correspondence. Camps may permit parents to send one-way emails and regular mail, but limit campers to handwritten letters only. Determine if mobile phones are allowed or should be left at home. Knowing the rules can help parents and kids plan accordingly.
- Pack correspondence supplies. Send kids to camp with fun papers, stickers, pens, and other crafty items. This way they'll be inspired to write home once or twice. Provide brief lessons on how to address an envelope for campers who may not know how.
- Check blogs and texts. Some camps may blog about campers' progress, post information on social media or send out mass texts. These messages can reassure parents that their youngsters are doing just fine. Figure out which tech options are available from camp administrators.
- Send a care package. Treat the campers to some supplies from home. Pack camp-approved snacks and other reminders of home. Be sure to include enough for the entire cabin and your son or daughter will be the camp star.
- Expect some silence. If camp is going well and campers' days are fun-filled, they may be too busy for daily correspondence. Parents may get nervous when they don't routinely see or hear from their children, but chances are everything is going swimmingly.

The camp experience is often harder on parents than children, as campers have their friends and activities to keep them busy. Brief communication helps campers grow more confident and independent.



## Prevent dehydration during the dog days of summer

A person's desire to be outdoors can sometimes be at odds with the outdoors itself. The dead of winter tends to be a time of year when people know to stay indoors, but the dog days of summer can be dangerous as well.

Heat-related diseases like dehydration can put lives at risk. According to Johns Hopkins Medicine, children and people over the age of 60 are particularly susceptible to dehydration. Understanding dehydration and how to prevent it is essential for anyone who plans to spend time outside during the summer.

What is dehydration?

The U.S. National Library of Medicine notes that a dehydrated body does not have enough fluid and electrolytes to work properly. On an average day, the human body needs about three quarts of water. But the USNLM notes that anyone planning to spend time outside in the hot sun needs significantly more water than that to avoid dehydration.

ed. These symptoms include:

- thirst,
- less frequent urination,
- dry skin,
- fatigue,
- light-headedness,
- dizziness,
- confusion, and
- dry mouth and mucous membranes,
- increased heart rate and breathing.

Children who are dehydrated may exhibit additional symptoms, including dry mouth and tongue; no tears and crying; no wet diapers for several hours; sunken abdomen, eyes or cheeks; listlessness; irritability; and skin that does not flatten when pinched and released.

How to prevent dehydration

Drinking plenty of fluids when working or playing in the sun is one way to prevent dehydration. Being sure to take in more fluid than you are losing is another way to prevent dehydration. Anyone, and especially people who sweat a lot, should keep a close eye on fluid loss when spending time outdoors in the summer. Sports drinks that help people maintain their electrolyte balance, such as Gatorade, can help prevent dehydration as well. Pedialyte is often recommended for sick infants or children who have experienced vomiting, as it can help restore electrolyte balance that was adversely affected when kids became sick. The solution can be equally effective at restoring electrolyte balance that was thrown off

dration. Anyone, and especially people who sweat a lot, should keep a close eye on fluid loss when spending time outdoors in the summer. Sports drinks that help people maintain their electrolyte balance, such as Gatorade, can help prevent dehydration as well. Pedialyte is often recommended for sick infants or children who have experienced vomiting, as it can help restore electrolyte balance that was adversely affected when kids became sick. The solution can be equally effective at restoring electrolyte balance that was thrown off

during heat exposure.

Dehydration poses a significant health risk at any time of year, but people who spend time out in the summer heat may be especially vulnerable. Limiting time spent outdoors on hot days and keeping a close eye on your fluid intake and fluid levels can help prevent dehydration.



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SESSION DATES:  
WEEK #1 JULY 6-9  
WEEK #2 JULY 12-16  
WEEK #3 JULY 19-23  
WEEK #4 JULY 26-30

**REGISTRATION BEGINS APRIL 1ST**

\*YOUTHCAMP@PATHFINDERTECH.ORG  
\*MORNING DROP OFF AT 8:00 A.M.  
\*PROGRAMS BEGIN AT 9:00 A.M.  
\*AFTERNOON PICK UP 2:45-3:15 P.M.  
\*SNACKS AND LUNCHES PROVIDED

REGULAR PRICE: \$250/WEEK (5 DAY) | \$200/WEEK (4 DAY) | \$800 (ALL FOUR WEEKS) | \$675 (FOR THREE WEEKS)  
EARLY BIRD: \$225/WEEK (5 DAY) | \$180/WEEK (4 DAY) | \$750 (ALL FOUR WEEKS) | \$600 (FOR THREE WEEKS)

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in Performing Arts, Debate & Public Speaking

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Basic Horse Care, Daily Riding, English & Western, Ages 5 & up

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## Adventures Await You This Summer at Bement!

A Traditional Day Camp Experience for Boys and Girls ages 4 to 15 years  
From Bement's beautiful campus in Historic Deerfield

### Bement Adventure Camp

Limited spaces still available in Session 1: July 5 - July 16

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[www.bement.org/summer](http://www.bement.org/summer)  
Questions? 413.774.7061

## SUMMER BALLET 2021

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School Age Summer Program for children who have completed K-6th grade.

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(413) 323-8108 and/or email [Heidi@belchertowndayschool.org](mailto:Heidi@belchertowndayschool.org)



# public safety

## Ware Police Log

<b>Monday, April 5</b> 10:33 a.m. Ambulance Request Vigeant Street – Services Rendered 4 p.m. Abandoned, 911 Call Hillside Village – Services Rendered 5:40 p.m. Trash Dumping Complaint West Street – Services Rendered 5:44 p.m. Accident, Vehicle West Street – Motor Vehicle Accident Over \$1,000 6:50 p.m. Abandoned, 911 Call King Street – Services Rendered 8 p.m. Assault Pleasant Street – Services Rendered 8:15 p.m. Accident, Vehicle Greenwich Road – Referred to Other Agency	Accident Over \$1,000 11:06 a.m. Ambulance Request Ware Road – Services Rendered 11:37 a.m. Harassment Complaint Gilbertville Road – Services Rendered 12:07 p.m. Ambulance Request Pulaski Street – Services Rendered 12:49 p.m. Motor Vehicle Violation East Street – Written Warning 1:02 p.m. Ambulance Request Vernon Street – Services Rendered 1:27 p.m. Accident, Vehicle Cottage Street – Motor Vehicle Accident Over \$1,000 1:53 p.m. Harassment Complaint North Street – Services Rendered 4:39 p.m. Harassment Complaint North Street – Services Rendered 6:54 p.m. Trash Dumping Complaint Walker Road – Services Rendered 7:53 p.m. Ambulance Request Hutchinson Road – Referred to Other Agency 8:35 p.m. Accident (Hit and Run) North Street – Referred to Other Agency 9:56 p.m. Vandalism North Street – Investigation Pending	10:27 a.m. Ambulance Request Belchertown Road – Services Rendered 11:10 a.m. Fire, Report Juniper Hill Road – Services Rendered 2:28 p.m. Ambulance Request Monson Turnpike Road – Services Rendered 4 p.m. Alarm Panic Old Gilbertville Road – Services Rendered 4:30 p.m. Vandalism Otis Avenue – Investigated, Report Filed
<b>Tuesday, April 6</b> 6:08 a.m. Alarm Burglar Main Street – Services Rendered 7:38 a.m. Hang-up, 911 Call West Main Street – Services Rendered 9:31 a.m. Fire, Report West Main Street – Services Rendered 9:55 a.m. Ambulance Request Monson Turnpike Road – Services Rendered 11:18 a.m. Ambulance Request Monson Turnpike Road – Services Rendered 7:32 p.m. Alarm Fire South Street – Referred to Other Agency 7:39 p.m. Ambulance Request Wildflower Drive – Referred to Other Agency 8:20 p.m. Ambulance Request Wildflower Drive – Services Rendered 8:34 p.m. Motor Vehicle Violation West Street – Arrest, Misdemeanor Charge Arrest: Jesse L. Baker, 47, Ware Speeding Rate of Speed Exceeding Posted Limit; Stop for Police, Fail; Negligent Operation of Motor Vehicle 8:47 p.m. Motor Vehicle Violation West Street – Arrest, Misdemeanor Charge Arrest: Jesse L. Baker, 47, Ware Speeding Rate of Speed Exceeding Posted Limit; Stop for Police, Fail; Negligent Operation of Motor Vehicle	<b>Thursday, April 8</b> 5:07 a.m. Vandalism Greenwich Plains Road – Services Rendered 5:18 a.m. Ambulance Request Coffey Hill Road – Services Rendered 7:26 a.m. Harassment Complaint Gilbertville Road – Services Rendered 12:40 p.m. Fire, Report Palmer Road – Services Rendered 1 p.m. Ambulance Request Coffey Hill Road – Services Rendered 1:14 p.m. Motor Vehicle Violation Church Street – Written Warning 4:25 p.m. Accident, Vehicle West Street – Services Rendered 6:17 p.m. Ambulance Request South Street – Referred to Other Agency 7:05 p.m. Alarm Burglar West Street – Services Rendered 10:14 p.m. Abandoned, 911 Call South Street – Area Searched Negative Find	<b>Saturday, April 10</b> 10:39 a.m. Trash Dumping Complaint North Street – Services Rendered 10:40 a.m. Motor Vehicle Violation Belchertown Road – Citation Issued 12:07 p.m. Fire, Report Palmer Road – Referred to Other Agency 12:25 p.m. Ambulance Request Highland Village – Services Rendered 1:42 p.m. Motor Vehicle Violation West Street – Written Warning 5:01 p.m. Larceny, Theft Report North Street – Services Rendered 8:02 p.m. Ambulance Request Otis Avenue – Referred to Other Agency 8:32 p.m. Motor Vehicle Violation West Street – Written Warning 11:26 p.m. Motor Vehicle Violation West Street – Citation Issued
<b>Wednesday, April 7</b> 12:06 a.m. Ambulance Request Warebrook Drive – Referred to Other Agency 7 a.m. Alarm Burglar East Main Street – Services Rendered 7:17 a.m. Ambulance Request Otis Avenue – Services Rendered 8:08 a.m. Accident, Vehicle Greenwich Road – Motor Vehicle	<b>Friday, April 9</b> 1:33 a.m. Abandoned, 911 Call West Street – No Police Service Necessary 9:59 a.m. Ambulance Request Hillside Village – Services Rendered	<b>Sunday, April 11</b> 3:32 a.m. Motor Vehicle Violation Greenwich Road – Citation Issued 10:11 a.m. Motor Vehicle Violation Belchertown Road – Written Warning 11:12 a.m. Motor Vehicle Violation Belchertown Road – Written Warning 12:25 p.m. Ambulance Request Monson Turnpike Road – Referred to Other Agency 3:10 p.m. Trash Dumping Complaint West Street – Services Rendered 5:27 p.m. Hang-up, 911 Call Belchertown Road – Services Rendered
		<b>Sunday, April 12</b> 5:32 a.m. Alarm Burglar West Street – Services Rendered 6:07 a.m. Alarm Burglar Palmer Road – Services Rendered 6:56 a.m. Alarm Burglar Palmer Road – Services Rendered

## Hardwick Police Log

<i>During the weeks of April 5-12, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 70 building/property checks, 30 directed/area patrols, seven radar assignments, 12 traffic controls, five emergency 911 calls, 54 motor vehicle stops, two safety hazards, one scam, one harassment, five complaints, one motor vehicle accident, four animal calls and one trespass in the town of Hardwick.</i>	Vehicle Accident Greenwich Road – Negative Contact	<b>Thursday, April 8</b> 10:30 a.m. Phone – Harassment Main Street – Spoken To 12:07 p.m. Phone – Safety Hazard Church Street – Taken/Referred to Other Agency 6 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Hardwick Road – Written Warning
	<b>Tuesday, April 6</b> 7:58 a.m. 911 – Fire, Structure Greenwich Road – Extinguished 2:13 p.m. 911 – Animal Call North Road – Taken/Referred to Other Agency 3:08 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Church Street – Written Warning 5:19 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning 3:58 p.m. Phone – Scam Lucas Road – Officer Handled 4:18 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning 5:24 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning 5:46 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Mechanic Street – Vehicle Towed 6:34 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning	<b>Friday, April 9</b> 2:27 p.m. Phone – Medical Alarm Hardwick Road – Transported to Hospital 4:30 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Barre Road – Written Warning 5:19 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Petersham Road – Citation Issued
	<b>Wednesday, April 7</b> 4:41 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Lower Road – Citation Issued 5:08 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Lower Road – Citation Issued	<b>Saturday, April 10</b> 5:25 p.m. Phone – Complaint Mechanic Street – Unfounded 5:42 p.m. Phone – Complaint Greenwich Road – Report Taken 7:54 p.m. Phone – Complaint Prouty Road – Spoken To 8:22 p.m. Phone – Complaint Prouty Road – Transferred Call to C7
		<b>Sunday, April 11</b> 4:33 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Barre Road – Written Warning

## New Braintree Police Log

<i>During the weeks of April 5-12, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 20 building/property checks, 17 directed/area patrols, 10 radar assignments, seven traffic controls, four emergency 911 calls, one motor vehicle stop, one motor vehicle accident and one complaint in the town of New Braintree.</i>	<b>Tuesday, April 6</b> 2:41 a.m. 911 – Suspicious Activity Worcester Road – Protective Custody	<b>Saturday, April 10</b> 7:57 p.m. 911 – Motor Vehicle Accident West Road – Arrest(s) Made 8:19 p.m. 911 – Misdial Tucker Road – Transferred Call to C3 8:23 p.m. Phone – Complaint Ravine Road – Transferred Call to C3
	<b>Wednesday, April 7</b> 11:36 a.m. 911 – Fire, Other Worcester Road – Unknown Outcome	

## Warren Police Log

<b>Sunday, April 4</b> 2:01 p.m. Illegal Dumping Milton O. Fountain Way – Removed Hazard	Southbridge Road – Written Warning 7:28 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning 7:43 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Southbridge Road – Written Warning 8:52 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop South Street – Written Warning	
<b>Monday, April 5</b> 4:53 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Southbridge Road – Citation Issued 5:50 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Southbridge Road – Written Warning 11:01 a.m. Breathing Difficulty South Street – Transported to Hospital 9:03 p.m. Sick/Unknown Keyes Street – Transported to Hospital 10:56 p.m. Falls Hawkes Road – Ambulance Signed Refusal	<b>Thursday, April 8</b> 5:53 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning 6:11 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning 10:52 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Southbridge Road – Citation Issued 11:05 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Southbridge Road – Citation Issued 11:14 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Southbridge Road – Written Warning 3:23 p.m. Fire, Smoke Investigation Maple Street – Investigated 4:06 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning 4:21 p.m. Identity Theft Old West Brookfield Road – Report Filed 4:29 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Southbridge Road – Citation Issued 5:02 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Old West Brookfield Road – Written Warning 5:41 p.m. Disorderly Conduct Southbridge Road – Arrest(s) Made Summons: Serena M. Smith, 40, Warren Destruction of Property Under -\$1,200, Malicious C266 §127; Threat to Commit Crime to Wit Animal Cruelty 9:17 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Citation Issued Summons: Izaiah J. Medina, 19, New Britain, CT Unlicensed Operation of Motor Vehicle; Speeding Rate of Speed Exceeding Posted Limit 10:45 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Citation Issued	11:23 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning 2:25 p.m. Vandalism Crescent Street – Report Filed 2:39 p.m. Sick/Unknown Southbridge Road – Transported to Hospital 3:49 p.m. Fraud/Forgery North Street – Information Given 4:04 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Citation Issued 4:23 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Old West Brookfield Road – Written Warning 4:27 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Southbridge Road – Citation Issued 4:53 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Southbridge Road – Citation Issued 5:15 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning 5:29 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Southbridge Road – Citation Issued 5:30 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning 6:03 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Winthrop Terrace – Written Warning 8:29 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning 8:40 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning 9:04 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning
<b>Tuesday, April 6</b> 4:19 a.m. Falls Hawkes Road – Transported to Hospital 1:18 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Reed Street – Written Warning 5:36 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning 6:12 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Maple Street – Written Warning 6:24 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning 6:46 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning 9:13 p.m. Trespassing/Property Complaint Old West Brookfield Road – Officer Spoke to Party	<b>Friday, April 9</b> 2:05 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop South Street – Written Warning 5:27 a.m. Sick/Unknown Old West Brookfield Road – Transported to Hospital 9:57 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Southbridge Road – Written Warning 11:09 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Ware Road – Citation Issued	<b>Saturday, April 10</b> 11:38 a.m. Bleeding (Non-Traumatic) Main Street – Transported to Hospital 2:36 p.m. Property Damage Southbridge Road – No Police Services Necessary 3:05 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Reed Street – Citation Issued
<b>Wednesday, April 7</b> 11:10 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning 11:11 a.m. Fire, Mutual Aid Palmer Race Track – Services Rendered 11:56 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Ware Road – Citation Issued 12:14 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Southbridge Road – Written Warning 2:28 p.m. Unattended Death Old West Brookfield Road – Report Filed 4:51 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning 5:11 p.m. Seizures Cottage Street – Ambulance Signed Refusal 5:33 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning 5:53 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning 6:14 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning 6:48 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning 7:14 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning 7:22 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop		

## Prevent mulch fires by safely disposing of smoking materials

STOW – State Fire Marshal Peter J. Ostroskey is reminding residents and businesses that it is important to always dispose of smoking materials safely, including near mulch. “Every spring, people spruce up their properties with fresh mulch and firefighters respond to many fires started by cigarettes tossed into mulch. Mulch is combustible and can easily catch fire,” he said. “We are asking smokers to dispose of their smoking materials responsibly in order to prevent fires. Don’t toss cigarette butts into mulch or a pile of dried leaves.”	building owners, property managers, nurseries and landscaping companies about the proper placement and storage of mulch in order to prevent these types of fires. Ostroskey said, “It’s important for mulch storage piles to be 30 feet apart to keep fires from spreading.”	between piles and 25 feet from the lot line. Large piles of mulch can easily spontaneously combust with all the heat they generate, so it is important to be vigilant and employ good housekeeping. The distance between piles prevents a fire from easily spreading to another pile or to a building.
<b>Proper receptacles</b> “Businesses and homeowners that are sprucing up their landscaping should also provide and maintain safe receptacles for disposing of smoking materials so that people won’t start fires by tossing cigarettes into the mulch,” said Ostroskey. “Metal containers with sand are best.”	<b>Keep 18 inches away</b> Here are some tips for property managers and building owners on how to prevent mulch fires: · Keep wood mulch 18 inches away from combustible exteriors of buildings such as wood or vinyl siding and decks. Do not put it right up against the building. · Use materials such as pea stone or crushed rock for the first 18 inches as a barrier around the foundation of the building and around gas and electrical meters. · Provide proper receptacles for smoking material disposal.	<b>Storage permits</b> Permits are required from the fire department wherever more than 300 cubic yards of mulch is produced or stored.
<b>Report smoldering</b> “If you see a smoldering mulch bed, please call 9-1-1 so the fire department can make sure it is truly extinguished. Mulch can smolder for a long time before erupting into flames,” said Ostroskey. Fires that start on the exterior of buildings are usually not detected early. By the time smoke and heat enters the building to trigger a fire or smoke alarm or sprinkler system, the fire is already large. Fortunately, many mulch fires are noticed and extinguished before spreading to a building or motor vehicle.	<b>State fire code</b> The Comprehensive Fire Safety Code (527 CMR 1.00, section 10.13.10.4.1) prohibits the new application of mulch within 18” around combustible exteriors of buildings, such as wood or vinyl but not brick or concrete. Residential buildings with six units or less are exempted from this regulation, but all homeowners may also wish to adopt these safety practices. The regulation applies to all other buildings including commercial properties.	<b>Education</b> There is a Mulch FireFactor, an educational handout in both English and Spanish on mulch fire safety and the Fire Code, on the Department of Fire Service’s website. It provides information to educate the community on the regulation. Building managers, landscapers and companies that store and sell mulch can use it to educate their staff.
<b>Know the rules</b> Fire officials want to remind	<b>Storage and manufacturing</b> The regulation (527 CMR 1.00, sections 31.3.6.3.2.2 & 31.3.6.4.3) also has safety requirements for those who store or manufacture mulch. It limits the size of mulch piles and requires a distance of 30feet	<b>Major mulch fires</b> In the past five years (2016 – 2020), there have been 199 fires that started in mulch but spread to buildings. These 199 fires caused five civilian injuries, 10 fire service injuries and an estimated dollar loss of \$3.1 million. While most mulch fires are caught early before spreading to buildings, there have been a number of large-loss mulch fires in Massachusetts. On the afternoon of July 10, 2018, the Boston Fire Department responded to a fire in a six-unit apartment building started by a discarded cigarette in a mulch bed. The front porch ignited and flames rapidly climbed up the Please see <b>FIRES</b> , page 13



# DMV extending grace period for expired inspection stickers

Due to the nationwide system outage of motor vehicle inspection services by its vendor Applus Technologies impacting inspection stations and motor vehicle owners, the Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles is extending a grace period for specific motor vehicle inspection requirements.

The requirements are outlined below and include an extension which now allows vehicle owners with expired March 2021 and April 2021 inspections stickers to have through May 31, to obtain inspections. The RMV is working in close partnership with the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association, the Massachusetts State Police and other stakeholders to mitigate the impacts of the outage.

The RMV is allowing a grace period for certain expired motor vehicle inspections. The RMV has advised law enforcement that compliance with the safety/emissions inspection requirement has not been possible since March 30, in light of the outage caused by the malware attack against Applus.

Motor vehicles with expired inspection stickers from March 2021 (“3” sticker on windshield) and April 2021 (“4” sticker on windshield) are extended until May 31, to obtain an inspection.

Newly purchased vehicles registered on or after Tuesday, March 23, 2021, should be granted until April 30, 2021, to obtain an inspection. Newly purchased vehicles must typically be inspected within seven days of registration.

Customers who recently had an inspection rejection and are in the 60-day free retest window will be afforded one extra day for each day Applus’s system remains unavailable but should plan to facilitate their inspection as soon as possible once the system is restored and stations are online.

**Status of vehicle inspections**  
Applus Technologies, a vendor that facilitates vehicle inspections in Massachusetts and several other states, experienced a cyber-attack in several states on March 30, preventing the RMV’s vehicle inspection stations from conducting vehicle inspections statewide.

The RMV will hold the vendor accountable for this disruption and is working with Applus to restore services as soon as possible. Applus has indicated that their systems will be operating by Saturday, April 17, in Massachusetts and the Registry will continue working with the vendor to meet this goal.

It has been 15 days since the Registry learned of the Applus cyber-attack, and the outage has had a significant impact to the many business owners who employ staff to deliver vehicle inspection services to the citizens of the Commonwealth.

For additional information and details on these and other RMV service offerings during the COVID-19 pandemic, please visit [www.mass.gov/rmv](http://www.mass.gov/rmv) or <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/rmv-covid-19-information>.

## WARREN PLANNING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE Special Permit Application No. 299 Site Plan Approval No. 65

Pursuant to MGL, Chapter 40A, NOTICE is hereby given that the Warren Planning Board, acting as the Special Permit Granting Authority, will hold a Public Hearing on **Monday, April 26, 2021 at 7:15 PM** on the application of **81 South Street, LLC**, seeking a Special Permit under Section 3.25.1 of the Town of Warren Zoning Bylaws. The Hearing will be held via digital platform Zoom Meeting.

**SITE LOCATION:** The subject property is located on South Street in West Warren, MA. The property is also known as Assessor’s Map 21, Lots 40,45,46,47,48,51 and is located in the Village and MCOD District.

**SUBJECT:** The Applicant is requesting to change the Use from Manufacturing or Industrial to Warehouse and Storage Facility. The proposed use requires a Special Permit and Site Plan.

A complete copy of the application may be inspected in the Office of the Planning Board or the Town Clerk during normal business hours. Anyone interested or wishing to be heard on the application should appear at the time and place designated. All interested parties are invited to attend **via Zoom**.  
<https://join.zoom.us>  
Meeting ID: 869 2706 4530  
Passcode: 784772  
Phone # 646-558-8656  
Warren Planning Board  
Derick R. Veliz, Chairman  
04/08, 04/15/2021

## Public Notice of Community Outreach Meeting

Notice is hereby given that a Community Outreach Meeting for proposed Marijuana Establishments is scheduled for **April 29, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. on ZOOM** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82857503604> or by calling 13017158592, and entering meeting ID 82857503604#. The Marijuana Cultivator, Marijuana Retailer, Marijuana Manufacturer, and Marijuana Transportation licenses are sought by Hardwick Mill Greenery. The proposed Marijuana Establishments are to be located at 94 Main Street, Hardwick, MA. There will be an opportunity for the public to ask questions.  
04/15/2021

## MORTGAGEE’S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Fermin Diaz to Country Bank for Savings dated November 3, 2017 and recorded with the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 12796, Page 186, of which mortgage the undersigned

is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at **11:00 a.m. on the 20th day of May, 2021**, on the mortgaged premises believed to be known as 29 Prospect Street, Ware, Hampshire County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

“A certain tract or parcel of land, together with the buildings thereon, on the northerly line of Prospect Street in said Ware, bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at a point on the northerly line of said Prospect Street, at the southeasterly corner of premises now or formerly of George H. Pariseau et ux;

Thence North 35° East along last named land, one hundred forty-five (145) feet, more or less, to a point;

Thence South 49° 45’ East, eight and 3/10 (8.3) feet, more or less, to a point,

Thence North 30° 45’ East, thirteen (13) feet, more or less, to a point at land formerly of George W. Kennedy;

Thence Easterly on last named land, sixty-eight and one-half (68 1/2) feet, more or less, to an iron pin at land formerly of Lizzie A. Wesson;

Thence Southwesterly on last named, one hundred sixty-seven (167) feet, more or less, to the northerly line of Prospect Street aforesaid;

Thence North 48° 38’ West on said Prospect Street, fifty-four and 5/10 (54.5) feet, more or less, to the point of beginning.

For title see deed recorded herewith.”

The premises will be sold subject to any and all restrictions, easements, improvements, covenants, outstanding tax titles, municipal or other public taxes, assessments, liens or claims in the nature of liens, and existing encumbrances of record superior to the mortgage, if any. Said premises will also be sold subject to all leases and tenancies having priority over said mortgage, to tenancies or occupation by persons on the premises now and at the time of said auction which tenancies or occupation are subject to said mortgage, to rights or claims in personal property installed by tenants or former tenants now located on the premises, also to all laws and ordinances including, but not limited to, all building and zoning laws and ordinances. It shall be the bidder’s sole responsibility to ascertain all items described in this paragraph and no representations are made concerning compliance with applicable zoning, building, sanitary or other state and/or municipal regulations.

**TERMS OF SALE:** TEN THOUSAND AND 00/100 (\$10,000.00) DOLLARS will be required to be paid in cash, or by certified or bank cashier’s check by the purchaser at the time

and place of sale. The balance of the purchase price in connection with the sale shall be paid in cash, or by certified or bank cashier’s check within thirty (30) days of the date of the sale and the Deed transferred contemporaneously therewith at which time the purchaser shall also pay directly to the auctioneer a buyer’s premium equal to five percent (5%) of the purchase price. The purchaser at the sale shall be required to sign a Memorandum of terms of sale containing the above terms at the Auction sale. The purchaser will be responsible for all closing costs, Massachusetts deed excise stamps and all recording fees.

The sale may be postponed or adjourned from time to time, if necessary, by the attorney for the mortgagee at the scheduled time and place of sale. The description for the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

**Other terms, if any, will be announced at the sale.**

Country Bank for Savings, Present Holder of said Mortgage

By: /s/Jonathan C. Sapirstein  
Jonathan C. Sapirstein  
SAPIRSTEIN & SAPIRSTEIN, P.C.  
1331 Main Street,  
2nd Floor  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413) 827-7500  
Its Attorneys  
Date: April 12, 2021  
04/15, 04/22, 04/29/2021

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Hampshire Probate and Family Court 15 Atwood Dr. Northampton, MA 01060 (413)586-8500 Docket No. HS21 P0163EA Estate of: Arthur Gordon Grimes, Jr. Date of Death: 09/03/2020 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**  
To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Eric M. Bicklehaupt on behalf of of Redstone Rehabilitation of East Longmeadow MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Audrey S. Boulanger of Chelmsford MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in an **unsupervised administration**.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so,

you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 05/05/2021.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

**UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)**

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Linda S Fidnick**, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: April 06, 2021

**Michael J. Carey**  
Register of Probate  
04/15/2021

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Worcester Probate and Family Court 225 Main Street, Worcester, MA 01608 (508) 831-2200 Docket No. WO21P0969EA Estate of: Pauline L Nicholson Also Known As: Pauline Nicholson Date of Death: September 02, 2020 INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Tina Swindlehurst** of Hardwick, MA.

**Tina Swindlehurst** of Hardwick, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without surety** on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting

the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.  
04/15/2021

## LEGAL NOTICE Public Hearing on Ware School Budget Set for April 28, 2021

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 71, Section 38N, of the Massachusetts General Laws there will be a Public Hearing on the Ware School Department’s Proposed Budget for the 2021-2022 School Year.

**The hearing will be held virtually via WARE TV-REMOTE ACCESS Google Meet Meeting – meet.google.com/dgs-borr-gta at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 28, 2021.**

Public comments can be e-mailed to [sc-comments@ware.k12.ma.us](mailto:sc-comments@ware.k12.ma.us).

All interested residents from the Town of Ware are invited to attend and participate.

A copy of the proposed budget will be available for viewing on the Ware Public School’s website ([www.wareps.org](http://www.wareps.org)).

Chris Desjardins, Chairperson  
Ware School Committee  
04/15/2021

## Hardwick Conservation Commission

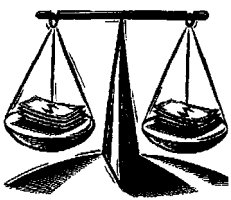
Notice is hereby given in accordance with the Wetlands Protection Act that a Public Hearing will be held for a **Notice of Intent on Wednesday, April 28, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom**. The link to the meeting is posted on the town website.

Applicant: St. Aloysius Catholic School

Description of Work: Riverfront Redevelopment, construct playground

Location: 52 Church St  
Town: Gilbertville, MA

Interested parties may also view this Legal Notice at <http://masspublicnotices.org>.  
04/15/2021



**Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.**

## Tri-Parish Community Church news

**NEW BRAINTREE** – The Tri-Parish Community Church bid farewell to the guest pastor, Rev. Kathleen Fitzgibbons at the April 11 service in the New Braintree Congregational Church. Fitzgibbon has been assisting the Tri-Parish in obtaining a permanent, part-time minister and now returns to her church in Maine for the summer. She will be greatly missed as her genuine Christian manner of preaching has inspired both young and older to return

to church.

There are two more services at the New Braintree Congregational Church: April 18 to be led by Jennifer Pollard; and April 25 with Deacon Marguerite Crevier. On May 2, Tri-Parish services will begin at the Stone Church in Gilbertville. All services start at 10 a.m. with masks and social distancing. For further information or questions, people may leave a message at 508-867-3306 and someone will return the call.

## PATHFINDER from page 9

Pathfinder Director of Athletics and Baldyga both said the reason for the short-handed roster last week was a combination of some players losing academic eligibility because of low grades, several who left the team to take after-school jobs, and a few students being forced into quarantine because of COVID-19.

Baldyga said he is still proud of his players, especially the core group that barely made up enough to actually take the field.

“They’ve been super committed and pretty much 15 of them have only missed maybe one or two practices,” Baldyga said.

“They’ve been really great at showing up and putting in the work. We’re really coaching them up hard and we’re trying to get better as a program and I got to give the kids a ton of credit for their commitment.”

Even after having to concede a game with a half to play, Baldyga said he is optimistic for the team’s future.

“I think this particular group are just really passionate about the sport of football,” Baldyga said.

“They want to get learn and get

better and have given such tremendous effort and have great attitudes. My coaching staff are super excited every day for practice. We had some good routines we go through, trying to improve our skills and I think the kids enjoy being back to normal. When you are out on the field, even though we are wearing a mask, it’s their two hours of the day they’re doing something they love.

Pioneer players, such as team captain and quarterback Jordan Talbot, offered similar sentiments about his teammates and the game against The Blue Devils.

“We are a young team and even though we only have 13 players on the team they come everyday, put in the work to get better, and have a lot to prove,” Talbot said. “Northampton was a tough team to start the season off with but we got some good looks and some things we can work on throughout the season to take with the younger guys next year and to build the team’s chemistry and numbers in the future.”

Baldyga said he cannot wait for parents to be allowed to return to the games and watch their kids play and for other fans to be able to show their support in person.

cars were destroyed. The building had no sprinklers and the estimated dollar loss was \$6.7 million.

In April 2012, improperly discarded smoking materials ignited mulch outside an assisted living center in Braintree. The fire forced many older adults to evacuate in the early morning hours. Several suffered smoke inhalation injuries.

In May 2008, a cigarette ignited a mulch fire at a Peabody apartment complex. It caused \$6.7 million in damage to the building, displaced 750 people temporarily and 36 permanently.

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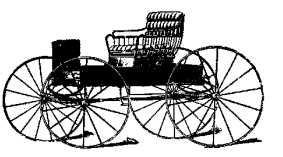
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21	Base Price \$26.50	22	Base Price \$27.00
23	Base Price \$27.50	24	Base Price \$28.00
25	Base Price \$28.50	26	Base Price \$29.00
27	Base Price \$29.50	28	Base Price \$30.00
29	Base Price \$30.50	30	Base Price \$31.00
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33	Base Price \$32.50	34	Base Price \$33.00
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37	Base Price \$34.50	38	Base Price \$35.00
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Number of Weeks: \_\_\_\_\_ X per week rate = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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SCHOLARSHIPS

The Centered Place offers student scholarship

WARREN – The Centered Place Yoga Studio of Warren will reward a deserving student of Quaboag Regional High School a scholarship of over \$1,000. The Centered Place aims to help support a student who wants to pursue a higher education so they can have a greater positive impact in the local community and world. The student will be selected based on financial need, the student’s activity in the school and community, and their own stated intentions.

The Centered Place regularly donates to local charities and causes. Toward the end of 2020, a guidance counselor at Quaboag Regional, Eric Urban, asked The Centered Place if it would be willing to offer a scholarship to one of the seniors. “We jumped at the opportunity,” recalls Phil Milgrom, co-director of the studio. “The way the political climate has been, and with all the social unrest as well as the anxiety and tragedy from the pandemic, we wanted to help in any way we could.”

He and Nancy Nowak, the other co-director and founder of The Centered Place, see this as an opportunity to make a difference. “Young people are our future. How this country ends up, and the whole planet by that matter, hinges mostly on the younger generation today” he said. “We will choose a student who is highly motivated and cares deeply about the future.”

To become a candidate for the scholarship, students are required to fill out an application available at the school, provide three letters of recommendation and write an essay that answers the following questions:

What change the student would like to make in the world?

How would the student make that change?

What obstacles might be encountered along the way?

What major obstacle has the student overcome in his or her life and how will this help that student succeed?

The Centered Place is contributing \$250 toward the scholarship while the rest is being raised by clients and friends of the studio. A fundraiser is ongoing. To contribute, you can send a check to The Centered Place, P.O. Box 1210, Warren MA 01083-1210 (write “For QRHS Scholarship” on the memo line).

QRHS serves students from Warren and many other towns in the area including West Brookfield, Ware, Palmer, Southbridge, Monson and New Braintree.

Anyone with questions may contact Milgrom at 413 436-7374.

Law offices of Mark E. Salomone awarding \$3,000 in scholarships

Three prizes will be awarded to students based on essays about distracted driving

BOSTON – The law offices of Mark E. Salomone in Massachusetts are proud to sponsor a nationwide essay contest focusing on innovative ways to prevent distracted driving. The three essay winners will receive \$3,000 worth of scholarship prizes for education-related expenses.

The essay contest is open to current or admitted undergraduates (including graduating high school seniors) and law school students who will be attending accredited colleges or universities in the United States in fall 2021. Proof of enrollment will be required to receive the award. Essays must be between 500 and 1,000 words long. The essays will focus on how to prevent distracted driving and promote safe driving habits among young drivers.

Distracted driving, especially sending or reading a text, poses a threat not just to the driver, but to their passengers, people in other cars and pedestrians. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, from 2014 to 2018 more than 15,000 people were killed in crashes involving a distracted driver, and teens ages 15-19 have the largest percentage of fatal crashes due to distracted driving.

The winning essay will be awarded \$1,500. The second prize winner receives a \$1,000 prize. Third place receives a \$500 prize. Only one essay can be submitted per student. Essays must be original content.

The application deadline is May 31. Winners will then be announced on July 31. Applicants can view the rules of the contest and apply online at the following web page for the law offices of Mark E. Salomone at [www.marksalomone.com/scholarship](http://www.marksalomone.com/scholarship).

Each submission must include:

- An essay as a Microsoft Word document (.doc or .docx format)
- A digital photo of applicant (in .jpg or .png format)
- A school transcript or proof of enrollment
- Applicant’s name, address and phone number
- School name and address
- A short, two to three sentence bio
- A waiver form with a parent or guardian’s signature for applicants under 18

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Nancy Curtis Scholarship available

WARE – Applications are now available for the Nancy Curtis Scholarship in the Ware, Palmer, and Belchertown Public Schools Guidance Department. Deadline for completion of the application is May 15, and should be forwarded to Mrs. Sandra Piechota, 269 Palmer Rd., Ware, MA 01082.

CHECK OUT ALL THE

 Publications

[www.turley.com](http://www.turley.com)

Ware Amvets Post 2577 offers Michael H. Deslauriers Scholarship

WARE – The Ware Amvets Post 2577 will award the annual Michael H. Deslauriers Scholarship to a graduating senior residing in Ware regardless of the school district they attend.

Michael Deslauriers was a devoted musician sharing his talents with the town of Ware. He represented the town at the Quabbin Music Festival, Western District Festival and was a member of the Ware Community Band. A music graduate of Westfield State he continued to honor the veterans of the town by playing taps at their burial ceremony and also at all the patriotic and memorial events.

Students who wish to apply for this award of \$1,000, need only to send their school transcript and an essay stating their accomplishments and what their future plans are. Applications are available at school guidance offices and must be submitted by May 1.

Please mail applications to Ware Amvets Post 2577, C/O Richard Rucki, 8 First Ave., Ware, MA 01082.

Scout bottle and can drive on April 17

WARE – Boy Scout Troop 281 will hold a bottle and can drive on Saturday, April 17, from 9 a.m. to noon, at the Edgar Machine shop on West Street, next to the car wash.

Scouts are accepting all returnable glass and plastic bottles and cans. All glass must be in a box, not in plastic bags.

Contact Scoutmaster Dan Flynn with any questions at 413-297-5886 or at [scoutdad281@charter.net](mailto:scoutdad281@charter.net).

Leaf and branches debris drop-off days for spring

WARE – The town will be accepting leaves, branches and vegetative debris from Ware yard and property clean-ups at the Robbins Road site.

Residents will not be required to get a permit for this drop-off and disposal, but the debris must be from Ware properties. It must be dropped off by property owners or contractors who have been hired to clean Ware properties. Users should be prepared to provide identification that verifies that they are Ware citizens or working for Ware citizens.

The dates will be Sunday, April 25, Saturday, May 1, Sunday, May 9, and Saturday, May 15, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Leaves and yard waste only will be accepted. Absolutely no trash or

other items will be accepted. The minimum size of branches is 12 inches in diameter, no exceptions. Residents are limited to two pick-up sized trailer loads per property address. Positive identification may be required.

All those dropping off debris must stay in their car and they must wear a mask.

Too much to do? Ask to serve on the Historical Commission

WARREN – Got too much to do? Can’t fit in one more thing? Perhaps a change of scenery would help out. The scenery is something that people may see every day. Members of the Warren Historical Commission, come to see neighborhoods and the town in a different light. They find answers to some questions that may have long puzzled them, such as why does the road take a sharp turn here?, why is this house set so far

back from the road?, where is the town’s most famous bridge? While some mysteries will be unraveled, others will remain puzzling.

For answers to some town mysteries, write a note to the Warren Selectmen and ask to be appointed to the Historical Commission. Or drop a line to [sgbuck37@verizon.net](mailto:sgbuck37@verizon.net) and let her know of an interest to become a member. you’d like to become a member

Turkey dinner drive-thru April 19

WARE – United Church of Ware, 49 Church St., will offering a take-out only, drive-thru turkey dinner on Monday, April 19, from 5 to 6 p.m. The cost is \$12 per meal. Cash and check are accepted. People can drive up to the Church

Street side of the church building and a runner will come to their car to take their meal order. Meals will then be delivered to the car. People do not need to get out of their cars to order or receive meals. Reservations are not required.

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## Brookfields Fight Fear to hold two events

WEST BROOKFIELD – Join the members of Brookfields Fight Fear for ‘Fridays For Future on Saturdays!’ In honor of Greta Thunberg and in honor of the planet the group will be on the West Brookfield Common between the hours of 10 a.m. and noon on consecutive Saturdays on April 17 and 24.

April 17 is entitled, “Educate.” The group will provide new and used books to trade, purchase and

give away about the environment and peoples’ effect on it. Attendees will find activities to enjoy and materials to peruse. In addition, there will be opportunities to help provide important books to local libraries and schools.

April 24, planted between Earth Day and Arbor Day is entitled, “Grow.” The group will share materials and offer training about how to plant trees and plants indigenous to this area as well as com-

posting and gardening tips. The event will include a tree giveaway and conclude with a ceremonious tree planting.

The events are all geared to directly or indirectly support Greta’s climate goals. Come and help the group begin to realize those goals and celebrate the new birth of spring. Please kindly mask up and avoid parking on Maple, Winter or Sheldon streets.

## ArtWorks exhibition celebrates all creatures great and small, May 22 through June 27

WARE – ArtWorks Gallery, 69 Main St., presents “Reigning Cats & Dogs,” an art exhibition on display from May 22 through June 27. Artists are sought to display their animal-themed works. All media and skill levels are welcome. The cost is \$20 per entry, with no commission taken (cash or card accepted, no checks please). People’s Choice Awards will be given.

Two-dimensional works should be no larger than 16 inches by 20 inches and must be wired to be hung. Three-dimensional works should be no larger than a pug-sized dog. Entries will be accepted by drop-off at the gallery on Friday, May 7, from 4 to 8 p.m., and Saturday, May 8, and Sunday, May 9, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

An in-person artist’s reception will be held Saturday, May

22, from 3 to 7 p.m. Exhibition hours will be May 22 to June 27 on Fridays, from 4 to 8 p.m., and Saturdays and Sundays, from noon to 5 p.m.

For more information or people may visit [workshop13.org](http://workshop13.org) for a printable entry form or contact ArtWorks Gallery at [artworks@workshop13.org](mailto:artworks@workshop13.org) or 413-277-6072.

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